



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

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13th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing once again to update you on Winstanley's current situation and approach regarding the international Coronavirus pandemic to reassure you that we are taking all appropriate advice and action. The situation is constantly changing and we will update you when there are any significant changes or developments.

Whilst these are challenging times, it is essential we all remain calm and focussed on ensuring our children continue to receive the best possible education. To reassure you and keep you updated, I would like to bring to your attention and share with you some of the positive steps we have taken as a school:

- All students have received an assembly on hygiene issues related to coronavirus
- Soap dispensers are refilled daily
- We have no trips planned abroad, but we will keep you posted about any trips in the UK as soon as we know if they are postponed or cancelled

Advice about School Closure

- Advice from the government on Thursday 12th March is that the school should stay open.
- The recommendation is that anyone with a new cough, fever or feeling short of breath should self-isolate for seven days. If a number of staff are ill, it may be that we will have to run a partial closure of the school. This may lead to larger class sizes. However, the priority would be keeping Year 11 in school because of exams and then Year 7, followed by Year 10, Year 9 and then Year 8.
- We will continue to follow advice from the government and Public Health England

Setting work in case of School Closure

- Staff and leaders are ensuring materials and resources are available online for students to access in case of a closure - Year 11 will be receiving some paper copies as well
- Year 11 students have had refreshers on how to use key online resources - Google classroom, Seneca, SAM Learning and other online resources
- Year 11 will have a weekly timetable and work will be set, submitted by students and feedback given by teachers during the closure. These students are only a few weeks away from their GCSEs, and as such, will require more remote interaction with their classroom teachers via the Google Classroom, Seneca and other online resources.
- Year 7-10 have been issued with information about how to access SAM learning which is where they will be able to access their work. They will receive feedback when school reopens.



Executive Head . Chris Parkinson . **Head of School** . Dave Bennett . **Deputy Head of School** . Fiona Le Cras

Assistant Heads of School . Wesley Collins . Annabel Roberts . Jason Scrimshire

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I would strongly advise you to speak with your child, ensuring they have access to their school email account, Seneca and SAM learning. This will reduce any possible anxiety in the event of a closure. If you have any issues **if the school closes** please can you email all enquiries/questions to this address: schoolclosure@winstanleyschool.org.uk We will endeavour to reply within 2 working days depending on staff availability. If you have a concern about the safety of a child, please contact dsl@winstanleyschool.org.uk or the police.

Communication to families and students with any updates will be through:

- The Winstanley School website
- Text message
- E-mail
- Twitter and other Social Media

We will continue to monitor the situation day by day, in line with Department for Education guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

As you can appreciate, the situation is extremely dynamic on an hour to hour basis, but I think it is best that you are kept informed. Please get in touch with your child's Head of Year if you have any questions at this stage.

Thank you for your support as we work together to safeguard our students, staff and community.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Bennett
Head of School