

ENFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr C Lamb B.A. Hons



An Academy Trust
(Company No. 07697044)

19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – SCHOOL CLOSURE TO MOST STUDENTS

In these very, very uncertain times, I would like to take the time to thank you all for your continued support in keeping our students safe and in education. The priority is obviously 'safe' and I fully support your decisions to self-isolate to help with social distancing. You know your family better than anyone, so you **MUST** do what is best for you and your family.

I will communicate with you as and when I feel there is a need, but this probably is the first of many letters, so please take time to read this, as the information that you provide to us is essential in ensuring that I can continue to follow Government guidelines and keep an educational provision in place for key students.

With all this in mind, I am writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the School to almost all students from **Monday 23 March 2020** until further notice.

The students that the School has to stay open for, fall into the following categories:

- Students with Educational Healthcare Plan (EHCP)
- Vulnerable students who are under the care of Social Services
- Students where parents are classified as Key Workers. These were defined yesterday by the Secretary of State as:
 - NHS Staff
 - Emergency Services
 - Delivery Drivers

This list is likely to be added to today, and I will keep you informed, as and when this happens.

To help ascertain how many students meet the criteria set out by the Government, I would like you to read below and communicate with the School, whether your son falls into any of these categories.

Category A

Does your son currently have an Education Healthcare Plan?



Category B

Is your son and/or your family, currently under the care of any aspect of Social Services?

Category C

Are you, as parents/carers, Key Workers, as currently defined above and therefore does your son need to be at school to allow you to go work?

If you could please contact the School, either by telephone on 020 8363 1095 or by email at office@enfieldgrammar.org, stating the following:

- Your name
- Your son's name
- Which category you feel you fall into – if this is Category C, what is your occupation?
- Based on all of the Government advice and guidance, is it your intention to continue to send your son into school?

Please note that this is a national closure, as you may have heard in the news, so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. Schools will re-open fully as soon as possible and of course I will keep you informed of this.

Your son's learning is of course important to me, so I will continue to help your son to learn.

If your son is not included in the above categories or he is, but you are choosing not to send him to school, work has been organised for students which can be accessed via a number of ways. These are:

- Teachers have informed students during lessons over the past few days what is expected of students and where they can locate the work needed to be done
- A number of resources will be made available via 'Google Classroom'
- GCSE Pod and the Seneca are two virtual learning environments which are used by the School. A huge variety of work is available on both of these sites
- A PowerPoint will be posted on the front page of the School Website, listing details for all learning resources and work that has been set by teaching staff. The PowerPoint will be entitled 'Remote Learning'.

I will send reminders tomorrow about how your son can access all the remote learning platforms.

I cannot impress upon you enough, the importance of students continuing with their school work during this very difficult period. Year 13 and Year 11 may feel it is acceptable for them to 'relax' as public examinations have been suspended, but this is not the expectation of the School. I expect all students to be further ahead with their learning than they currently are when they return to school. Teaching staff will be planning their lessons for when we return, with the expectations that all students have worked exceptionally hard during the School closure. Although there may not be 'exam' pressure, there is certainly 'learning' pressure, to ensure that the students are ready to begin their next course, be that GCSEs, BTECs, A Levels or undergraduate courses.

If your son usually receives free school meals, I will be in touch with more information about how the Government plan to support schools in ensuring that this service continues.

It is important that in these very difficult times, communication is of paramount importance, both from the School and from you as a parent/carer. The School remains a place that all parents/carers and students can contact if they are feeling vulnerable, isolated or in general need of some support. Please email or call the School on the contact details listed above, and please be assured I am personally monitoring all correspondence to the School and will ensure that the School responds with the appropriate advice, guidance and support.

Thank you again for your continued support. I will update you with more information, once I have received it.

Please ensure that you take care and look after yourselves and your family during this stressful time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Lamb', with a stylized flourish at the end.

C Lamb
Headteacher