

20th March 2020

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Dear parents/carers

Following on from my last update, you will be aware that **schools will close to the vast majority of students from Friday 20th March until further notice**. I am writing to you with a heavy heart, but also to reassure you that we are still here to support our students and families at this hugely challenging time for us all.

School is still open to Year 7, 8, 11 and 13 today. During the next couple of days we will finalise the initial home working offer and send more information to you.

We will also look at the Government’s guidance for the reduced number of children to whom schooling on site will be offered and get back to you. As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and children with certain needs (see table below for clarity). We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories by **one** of the following methods:

- completing the online survey monkey sent out via MyEd
- contacting us by email info@hansonacademy.org.uk
- contacting us by telephone on 01274 776200 (please ask for Suzanne Gammon or Helen Kelly) confirming the name of the student, their year group and the category.

| Key Workers | Vulnerable Groups |
|--|---|
| <p>Key workers are people who work within the public sector in roles that are vital to the infrastructure of the community.</p> <p>They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Health and social care <input type="checkbox"/> Education and childcare <input type="checkbox"/> Key public services <input type="checkbox"/> Local and national government <input type="checkbox"/> Food and other necessary goods <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety and national security <input type="checkbox"/> Transport <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities, communication and financial service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students who have an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Please note that medical e.g. provision with highly severe medical needs contradict the guidance given - parents/carers are to contact us with any concerns (SEND Department) • Students who are in care or looked after. • Students who are known to and engaging with external agencies. • Other cases that might need to be discussed with a member of school or ARC staff in greater detail. |
| | <p>Please note that there are many other types of vulnerable groups, but this has not been made entirely clear yet.</p> |

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March onwards. 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. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by MyEd message, the school website and Bradford Schools Online.

Remote Learning:

Your child's learning is of course of paramount importance to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn. Through the use of Show My Homework (SMHW) and the school email system we have the ability to communicate and set work for students. Students have been shown how to access their SMHW account and information is on the school website for parents. In addition the SMHW link is also available on the school website:

<https://www.satchelone.com/login>

Teachers are expected to upload work regularly for students to complete and students are expected to complete and return their work via SMHW. Any student questions can be directed to their teacher through SMHW or the dedicated email studentquestions@hansonacademy.org.uk We endeavour to acknowledge all queries within 24 hours and send personalised responses within 48 hours. We would expect students to remain at home during school hours (where possible) to undertake their work. Staff are expected to upload work and respond during school hours.

Students can also access a variety of methods of remote working via the school website; if they click on the banner labelled **Cononavirus Information and Arrangements for Student Remote Working**, students will be provided with a range of options, including the facility to logon to the school system and their files, if they have a laptop or a desktop computer. You may also wish to encourage your child to access Seneca Learning <https://www.senecalearning.com/>, Hegarty Maths <https://hegartymaths.com/> and bbc bitesize <http://www.bcbitesize.co.uk/>.

We are also working to ensure that printed materials are shared with children who do not have internet access at home. **Please let us know if your child would not be able to access the internet by contacting us by phone on 01274 776200, completing the online survey monkey or by email info@hansonacademy.org.uk**

Year 11 and Year 13:

Please do not worry. The Government has offered reassurance that you will not be disadvantaged and we will do our utmost to ensure this is the case. They have announced that they will not go ahead with primary school assessments or secondary exams this summer (including GCSEs and A'Levels), and they will not be publishing performance tables. They will work with Ofqual to ensure students get the qualifications they need.

We know how hard you and your teachers have worked - you have been an absolute privilege to teach and this will continue until the end of the academic year. What I need from you now is to engage with your teachers through the remote learning platforms that we have provided (as listed above) to ensure you continue your education.

For Year 11 students we have also set up a dedicated email Year11questions@hansonacademy.org.uk and purchased GCSEPod <https://www.gcsepod.com/>. More information will also be available on the school website.

For Year 13 students please contact Miss Buckley, Miss Begum or Mrs Topham with any questions or queries. Our staff are doing all they possibly can in this unprecedented time - this is not easy and we appreciate your understanding.

Free School Meals:

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Please remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS 111.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via email, telephone or the school website.

We remain determined to do all that we can for our students in partnership with our families while we are closed. Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely



Richard Woods
Headteacher