

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

At 5.15pm yesterday, the Secretary of State for Education gave a public statement that all state-funded schools in England would be closed from the end of the school day on Friday.

He also indicated that all school tests and assessments (including SATs, phonics screening and times table tests, GCSEs, A' Levels) due to take place this summer, have been suspended.

Having indicated that all schools would be *closed*, he then indicated that they would be expected to remain *open* for the children of key workers and for those in various vulnerable categories – providing a safe place and access to meals. We are expecting a definition of 'key worker' today from the Cabinet Office. It will take time to determine the nature of this provision.

Although we have been anticipating such an announcement, and prepared for various scenarios, the limited details so far released raise more questions than answers. You will all have your own legitimate concerns and queries.

I will be working today with my colleagues, and all staff, to clarify as best we can what this announcement means for the school, for our pupils and for you. I anticipate providing more details later today.

Thank you for your support and for your patience in the meantime.

For the next two days, pupil attendance is expected to continue for **Years 11, 12 and 13** within the COVID-19 Public Health England guidance. **Years 7 – 10 should not come to school for any reason. Please also note that there will be no period 6 lessons today (3:05 – 4:05pm) for Sixth Form students.**

Yours faithfully,



M. Pritchard
Headteacher