



Fulford School

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17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As we are all aware the situation regarding Coronavirus is moving at great pace. We continue to receive daily updates from relevant government agencies. The fast pace of change means that these may change at short notice. The most up to date information and guidance can be found on the following website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

We are still being advised that schools should not routinely close. The school will remain open unless we are advised otherwise. We do have a number of children who are self-isolating and if you feel this is an appropriate action for your child do please let us know at school. Please do follow all guidelines and make cautious decisions. **Do not send your child to school if they fall within the government guidelines for self-isolation.**

Within school we continue to emphasise the need for good hand hygiene. Pupils need to make sure that they wash their hands correctly, particularly on arrival in school, after using the toilet, and before and after eating. They should also wash their hands on arriving home. They should come to school with tissues, so that they can catch sneezes and coughs and then throw away the tissue in the nearest bin. They should also avoid touching their faces. Please reinforce these messages at home. We are also directing pupils to wash their hands after using keyboards and we are allowing time for this to be done.

We have employed extra cleaning staff to clean surfaces and bathrooms during the day. Assemblies have been cancelled and pupils are not playing contact sports in PE. We are restricting the number of people who are coming into school.

We have cancelled the Year 12 parent consultation meeting which was to take place this evening. All other parents' evenings will be cancelled until we have a change in government advice around social distancing.

All sporting fixtures against other schools have been cancelled. All school trips due to happen in March, April and May which are not a requirement of either the GCSE or A level exam will be cancelled. This includes trips to Spain at Easter and France in May. Separate letters will be sent to parents/cares who are affected by these cancelations. We will keep future trips under regular review.

We have been asked about providing work for pupils who are self-isolating. At the moment we are putting together contingency plans for all pupils should the school be asked to close by the government. We are also working to manage staff absence and make sure that we have enough staff to maintain the safe and effective running of the school. We are working on preparing a pack of work covering maths, English and science in the short term for those pupils who are self-isolating. We hope to have links on the website by the end of the week. Please do have patience as we work through this.

In the event of a school closure teaching staff will be setting work for pupils to complete via the homework function in Classcharts. Pupils across school have been using this feature this academic year but, given that Classcharts for homework has been used in conjunction with

the planner, we are aware that a small number of students do not currently have access to class charts. We have identified those students who require support and access codes to be able to utilise the Classcharts homework feature. This support will be completed during Tutor time this week to ensure that all students have access to the work which has been set, by their teachers to complete at home.

Parents were provided with Classcharts log in details at the start of this academic year. We are aware that some parents do not currently have access to Classcharts. **If you are unable to access Classcharts and require log in details or any other support please can you email classcharts@fulford.york.sch.uk and a member of staff in school will be able to assist you.** Parental access to Classcharts is important as this will allow parents to see the work which has been set for their children to complete. Teachers will also have school email contact with pupils in Year 11 and 13 **only**. All contact between teachers and pupils will need to be through Classcharts and additionally, **for Years 11 and 13 only**, through school email. For safeguarding reasons we will not be able to communicate with pupils using personal email or phone calls. Further details of our contingency plan will be sent should the school be required to close.

We await information from the relevant bodies about the upcoming exam session. We understand the concern and anxiety that pupils may be feeling. We will continue to prepare pupils for their exams and, as such, the GCSE PE moderation on 25th March and the GCSE Art exam on the 1st and 2nd of April will still go ahead as long as school stays open.

Teachers and support staff are as likely to fall ill as pupils. We will do all we can to remain open to all year groups but in the event of severe staff shortages we may need to partially close to one or two particular year groups. The health and safety of pupils is paramount and will always be our priority. We are monitoring the situation closely and if we do need to make a decision to partially close we will give you as much notice as possible.

We are living in uncertain times and are all doing our best to come to terms with the situations we find ourselves in. Thank you for your support and understanding. We am sorry we don't have definitive answers for all the questions you may have. We will keep in regular contact with you and keep you informed of changes as they happen.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Lewis', written in a cursive style.

Steve Lewis

Head Teacher



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The South York Multi-Academy Trust.

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