

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As many of you will be aware, following the announcements from the Education Secretary and Prime Minister, Kingsdown school will be closing from 3:00pm today until further notice.

As detailed in the announcement, the Government are hoping schools will remain open to children of **key workers and vulnerable children**. For further details of who is on the key worker list please use the following link: [Key worker list](#).

Vulnerable children are defined as:

- Children with an EHCP
- Children with a social worker
- Children who are 'Looked After' or Young Carers
- Children who are disabled

In order to provide an appropriately staffed and resourced provision for your child(ren) during the national school closure period **we require you to book your place**. Please note that the provision is ONLY for parents or carers who meet the Government criteria of being a Key Worker or have been informed they are eligible due to other specified criteria.

Please complete the [Booking form](#) to book your place. If you have more than one child that requires a place, you must fill in and submit the form for EACH child individually. **Please do this by 1pm TODAY**

Students attending will be required to wear school uniform, and will be provided a breakfast and lunch.

The Government has also announced that all **GCSE exams** will not go ahead this summer. I know that this will be causing a great deal of anxiety among our year 11s. We are waiting to review further guidance in this area both from Government and Ofqual and will update you as soon as we can. Today we are planning a special send off for our year 11s who have been great role models.

The Government have also advised that children currently in receipt of **Free School Meals** will be assisted by way of schools being able to provide meals on site where possible or purchase vouchers for supermarkets or local shops. We are again awaiting guidance of how this will work in practical terms, but want to assure you that we are committed to assisting our families eligible for Free School Meals and will do all we can to assist, whilst following the guidance given.

With regards to the school closure, our staff have been working tirelessly over the past few days and weeks to prepare resources for the students whilst they are unable to come to school and this will be uploaded onto **Show My Homework** each week. We have spent time this last week in ensuring all our students have their username and passwords. Should you have any issues please contact your child's Progress Leader.

We are all facing increasingly extraordinary circumstances and I am sure you will appreciate we are trying to navigate our way through this fast moving situation and are seeking clarity over the announcements that have been made and how the school can assist families moving forwards. Should you require any support during this period, please do not hesitate to get in touch either through email. I will keep in touch with you via our parent 20 clicks. For now, I send you and your family my very best wishes.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett

Headteacher