



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Prime Minister has announced that all schools will be shut from Monday until further notice. We appreciate that this news means families will have to make alternative arrangements at short notice, but I want to reassure you that Plymouth High will remain open today and tomorrow as normal.

From Monday, as directed by the Prime Minister, we will only be open to vulnerable students and students of parents who are in the 'key worker' category.

If you are a key worker and you would like your child to attend school during normal school hours, please email keyworders@phsg.org giving the name and tutor group of your child. We will reply with a short form for you to complete.

Mrs Payne will be in contact with the parents of vulnerable students to discuss what provision is best for their child over the closure period. If you consider your child to be vulnerable and you haven't been contacted by Mrs Payne, please do email her.

The kitchen will only be offering the main meal option at lunchtime during the closure period for those students who are in school, there will be no provision for break time snacks.

Lessons will not run as normal for those students in school over the closure period, but they will be supervised. Students in school will be expected to complete the work that has been set by their class teacher in the same way as those children at home.

Teachers will be setting work for their classes via Google classroom. Work will be set which mirrors the normal timetable, although from next week, period 4 and lunchtime will switch over with period 4 and 5 happening after lunch.

Teachers will do their best to respond to class questions on Google classroom during normal lesson times. Outside of their allocated lesson times, teachers will be planning and setting work and therefore may be unable to respond to student queries.

I know that students and parents will have concerns about what all this means for their education and for the public examinations that were due to be held in the summer. I am unable to give you a clear picture about what will happen with examinations this year, but the message to our students is that they should carry on studying. If there is to be some form of national testing later in the year, we want our young people to be as well prepared as possible.

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When we know more, I will write to you again. In the meantime, I thank you for your understanding and patience as we try and find a way through these unprecedented times. The welfare, happiness and education of our young people remains our first priority.

Yours faithfully

Mr Simon Underdown
Headteacher