



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In common with other schools we are taking steps to help slow down the spread of COVID-19. As part of these measures we are looking at how we might respond to the need for maximising social distancing.

Our first priority is the safety and welfare of our students, and to that end we have decided to review the viability of forthcoming events to which large numbers of our parents would normally be invited.

We have decided to cancel the Parent Information event on Wednesday of this week and will be taking a decision today on whether it is prudent to continue with the Year 8 Parents Evening, the school show and the Duke of Edinburgh Award meeting. I will send parents written details in lieu of the information event.

I will write to you tomorrow with information about how we plan to manage the last two weeks of term. I will also endeavour to provide details of the dates for any rearranged events. However, the situation is fluid and I suspect we may need to revisit plans after the Easter break.

Teachers are preparing for the possibility of Public Health England instructing us to close. In the event of closure, our plans remain as before. Teachers will set work for students via google classroom and will be guided by the normal timetable so that students know what to expect and have a reasonable amount of study to complete each day. Teachers will try and be available online on google classroom to answer student questions during the usual timetabled slots. Please be mindful that we may suffer staff sickness during a closure which could have an impact on the availability of teachers.

As a reminder, Ofqual have said that they are expecting the public examination season to run as normal this year. If this position changes, we will keep you updated.

Please remember to call NHS 111 if you are concerned that you or your child is showing symptoms of the coronavirus and follow the latest advice on self-isolation. Please let us know if your child is absent from school due to self-isolation so that we can keep accurate attendance records.

The school is cleaned each day and our cleaning staff are paying particular attention to hard surfaces such as push plates, door handles, banisters, etc., as well as keeping hand washing facilities topped up. We have scheduled in a deep clean of the school over the Easter break to maximise student and staff safety as best we can.

I thank you for your understanding and support as we work towards keeping everyone at Plymouth High as safe and happy as possible.

Yours faithfully

Simon Underdown
Headteacher