

18 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Whilst the Government has not announced the widespread closure of schools, unfortunately the cumulative impact of the current measures announced on Monday has led to increased levels of staff absence. Whilst we are coping today, we have limited capacity in the event of further staff absence and a number of staff still in school who fit into the 'vulnerable health' category and I have a duty of care to protect them too.

Partial School Closure – year 9 & year 10

Therefore, regrettably I have to inform you that **we will be partially closing the school for year 9 and year 10 students from 19th March until 20th April 2020**. As you will note, this period includes the Easter holiday which will run from 6th April until 20th April. **Therefore, at present we will expect year 9 and year 10 students back in school on Tuesday 21st April 2020 as per the school calendar.**

If you are a key worker(s), working in the NHS or emergency services, and this presents a challenge, please contact the school via keyworker@manor.school and we will make contact to see how we can support you.

Home Learning

Whilst we understand that this partial closure may cause disruption for you and your family, we have robust plans in place so that your child/ren can continue their education during this time. As always, we are committed to ensuring that our students receive the best possible education and will be working hard to minimise the impact of the closure on your child/ren's education. Our expectation is that students are at home, learning, during school hours.

To support students in year 9, year 10 and those who are self-isolating, the following arrangements are in place to facilitate continuation of learning for the duration.

- **Work for each subject is published via the school website under the 'subject specific home learning' button.** Tasks for each subject and year group have been set. We advise students to complete the work as per the timetable shown to provide structure to their learning time.

- The **'additional home learning' button on the school website** provides additional tasks and resources are available for off-screen learning, or additional tasks where necessary.
- Some of the tasks may include links to further resources or support which have already been shared with students via Show My Homework or OneDrive before the Covid-19 outbreak.

All Other year Groups

For students in years 7/8/11/12 and 13, the school will be open as usual.

Year 11 and 13 Examinations

The current advice for schools and students regarding examinations is to continue to prepare for the approaching examination season. With that in mind year 11 and year 13 parents/students will receive a letter in the post within the next few days.

General Advice

I would like to reinforce yesterday's message from Chris Hill, CEO, regarding the Government advice for staying at home:

· If anyone has the coronavirus symptoms of a persistent cough or high temperature, the entire household should stay at home for a period of 14 days.

A link to the Government advice can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Our advice to all staff, students and families is to follow this guidance, which may mean increased absence in the days and weeks ahead. Parents will need to make a judgement as to ongoing symptoms and self-isolate for 14 days as per the guidance if necessary.

If your child, family or household have a specific underlying medical condition or vulnerability, we would advise seeking medical advice regarding the most appropriate course of action.

As Chris also wrote yesterday, the decision to protect your family and any vulnerable household members is completely yours. Please make your own assessment and use your knowledge of the medical issues pertinent to the vulnerable person in question to make your decision. Please contact the school to discuss any concerns further.



MANOR SCHOOL SPORTS COLLEGE

The Government advice on social distancing, particularly for those with certain medical conditions, pregnancy and for those over the age of 70 can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

As I am sure you will appreciate, these are unprecedented times and this remains a highly fluid situation. We are making decisions about the provision we can offer every day. I will be in contact as soon as we receive any further guidance or apply any further decisions that will impact on you.

If you have any queries please contact our dedicated email homelearning@manor.school with an outline of the query and we will direct to the correct person to get back to you as soon as we are able to.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

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Principal

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