17\textsuperscript{th} March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: COVID-19 Partial School Closure

Due to the rapidly changing situation and the new measures put in place by the Government, we are now not able to staff the full school timetable. This is due to the new measures requiring staff to self-isolate for 14 days if there are any Covid-19 symptoms in their household and the new guidance regarding vulnerable groups.

We have, therefore, made the decision to close school tomorrow \textbf{Wednesday 18.03.20} for Years 9 and 10. We will deliver the timetable as normal, using necessary cover, to Yrs 7, 8 and 11, 12 and 13.

In terms of Post-16 lessons, all Year 13 lessons and Year 12 lessons will be delivered if their teacher is in school. However, we may not be able to cover these lessons if their teacher is absent.

Rationale:

- We want to protect the teaching of examination classes in Y11, 12 and 13
- We want to ensure that the youngest students are in school to ease the pressure on childcare as well as reducing the impact on NHS parents and grandparents that may be required for childcare
- Whilst schools are not being advised to close, we are undertaking these measures to ensure that our depleted staffing is used to best effect for those students with upcoming examinations

We will not be setting work for tomorrow while we set up our contingency plans. Students should use the online learning platforms that they are already subscribed to (e.g. Hegarty Maths) and we will contact you with instructions on how to access work for students in the near future.

This partial closure will remain in force until further notice and we will maintain communications via our usual methods.

We would like to reiterate the message that students should stay at home if they are unwell or if anyone in their household (including siblings) is unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature as per the latest Public Health England guidance. We would also ask parents/carers of students with underlying health conditions to also check the latest Public Health England guidance as to the most current advice regarding social contact and non-essential travel.

Yours faithfully

\textit{L. Weston (Headteacher)}