

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As has been announced, schools in the UK are to close at the end of tomorrow, Friday 20th March. Please rest assured that we have been planning for this eventuality, and have a system in place to ensure pupils can access work and learning resources from home. Where appropriate, pupils will be expected to return work to the relevant member of staff via their email. The teacher will then provide feedback. To maintain a level of consistency, wherever possible, we recommend that pupils keep to a structured routine by following their normal school timetable.

The Government has outlined the need for schools to offer supervision, during normal school hours, for pupils whose parents/carers are "key workers", and are not able to make alternative childcare arrangements for their children, and for vulnerable pupils. Pupils with a vulnerability include Looked After Children, those with an EHCP, children of service personnel, and those pupils with a social worker.

If you are a key worker, or a parent of a vulnerable child (as outlined above) and require supervision for your child, please email the school, **by 9.00am tomorrow morning**, on admin@sweynepark.com. In order to allow us to identify relevant emails, I would be grateful if you would ensure you use "KEY WORKER" or "VULNERABLE CHILD" in the subject heading, and confirm your role and place of employment (if relevant). This will allow us to make all necessary plans for next week.

For children of key workers who do come into school, please be aware that we will be unable to run lessons, and they will be expected to access the same work as those working at home. The expectation is that pupils will attend in their uniform, and follow the usual school rules.

At this stage, I cannot speculate on plans for the Easter break, as we are awaiting further clarity from the Government.

I appreciate that this is an incredibly unsettling time for everyone, and I am sure that pupils will be experiencing a range of emotions. I am particularly mindful of the impact this is having on our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils, especially given the uncertainty that lies ahead for them. Although I am encouraged by the fact that the Government is clear in its position that they will not be penalised for the situation which is, of course, completely out of their control. I am hopeful that we will have more clarification as the days go on.

I will be in touch again once we have had further information and clarification from the Department for Education.

Kind regards



Katharine Dines
Headteacher