

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers

The details of the school closure arrangements are changing so fast that I am afraid you are likely to receive a high volume of emails over the next few days. Normally I would try to avoid this, but, in these very unusual circumstances, I think it best to get information out to you as quickly as I can. Cheshire East Council has now published an indicative list of “key workers” whose children may continue to attend school.

- Emergency Services
- Essential NHS staff
- Social Workers
- Military
- School transport
- Education/ settings staff
- Essential Adult Services
- Food Delivery/Transport

They are also pressing us for an idea of numbers as soon as possible. Please let me know as soon as possible if you fall into one of these categories and, if so, whether your child will be attending after tomorrow.

We have received a parental suggestion that tomorrow should be a non uniform day in return for a contribution to the Food Bank from everyone who is able to make one. I think this is a great idea. Please send non perishable food items or toiletries in with your child and they will be collected at form time and added to our rapidly growing collection.

We are also working on plans for Year 11 tomorrow. We want to create a proper sense of occasion while maintaining appropriate levels of social Many, I know, would like to have a shirt signed in the time honoured manner. If your son or daughter would like to do this, please ask them to bring a spare shirt. Signing shirts that students are actually wearing would clearly involve a much higher degree of social contact than we are encouraging at the moment.

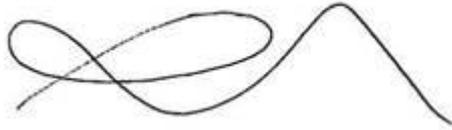
We understand that Ofqual will be publishing the criteria for awarding exam grades tomorrow. As we are likely to need to provide supporting evidence for any estimated grades, the work that is set for students in exam groups will be especially important over the next few weeks. It may well, therefore, include significant numbers of past exam papers and past exam questions. Once that process (and the allocation of students on to their new pathway courses) is complete, the emphasis for these students will shift to preparing for next year: either by undertaking work for their new pathway subjects if they are in Y9 or Y10, or by starting to focus on their chosen A levels or college courses if they are in Y11. We will be liaising with our partner post 16 providers to see how we can work together to support this.

We continue to hear distressing accounts from some families under real pressure, whether it be financial or emotional. I am hugely grateful to St Georges St Church who have offered the services of their minister, Tony Togneri, so that he can broker practical and emotional support for families in need. Please ring Tony on 07595728739 for a confidential chat if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Finally, we ran a “free book stall” earlier today to ensure that students have some reading matter for the start of the closure. Books went like hot cakes and almost all of those donated on world book

day have now gone. We would like to repeat this tomorrow; if you have any books that you no longer need and that you think our students might enjoy, please send them in tomorrow.

Thank you all for your continued support. I will be in touch again as soon as I have any further information to share.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a final upward stroke that tapers to a point.

**Richard Hedge**  
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