



Friday 20 March 2020, Afternoon

Dear Parents/Carers

CORONAVIRUS CRISIS - POST-CLOSURE ADVICE

The School is now closed to students. It was very difficult for everyone in School yesterday - especially of course for the Year 11 and Year 13 students. I empathise with all students and parents here; I was with my own Year 13 Mathematics group during the last period of the day so I saw at first-hand, and felt most keenly, the emotions and anxieties bearing on the students. I must reassure everyone that the School will do all it can to ensure that the GCSE and A-Level grades awarded to all our students are those which they deserve to be awarded.

In the meantime I find it impossible, at the moment, to guide our Year 11 and Year 13 students in terms of what they should be doing during the period of closure. I do not feel that it is reasonable to ask them to prepare for examinations which have been cancelled. In due course - but not in the immediate future - we aim to provide some guidance/materials for Year 11 students in order to help them make the transition to their Sixth Form career here.

All other students should try to adopt a term-time routine, getting up at a reasonable time and consulting MILK for work set. I will not attempt to suggest that the students will obtain the same quality of education as they would if here in normal lessons, but my colleagues have been briefed to communicate, each day, work to be studied in accordance with their teaching timetables. I cannot promise that this will always happen if a teacher is him/herself unwell.

CHILDREN OF 'CRITICAL WORKERS'

On arriving here this morning I was at last able to read the Government guidance to schools regarding children of what are now referred to as 'Critical Workers'. The document, which was published overnight, is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>.

The document makes it clear that: *the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.*

Bourne Grammar School will remain open to provide care in accordance with Government advice: *Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.*

The School will contact the parents/carers of students it believes to be *vulnerable*. If you believe that your child falls into this category and cannot be cared for at home, please contact Mrs Ford *via* the [pastoral@](mailto:pastoral@bournegrammar.com) email address.

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ELIGIBILITY

In order to determine whether or not you are eligible to send your child/ren to School, please use this simple online tool: <https://s.surveypal.com/5K322nyHl>. This will inform the School of your position and will help us to understand how many students we are likely to need to care for.

I emphasise that the teaching staff will be occupied during the period for which the School must be closed in sending out to their students work for the students to do at home. **Students in School will be supervised only; they will not be taught according to their normal, or any other, teaching timetable. They should, where possible, bring a device which can be used to access MILK so that they can see the work that they, and their fellow students, are to do. They must bring whatever books and stationery they need to complete the work set.** They need not bring a PE kit. They should bring a reading book of their choice; they may choose a book from our own stock if they wish.

Any students with underlying health conditions (asthma, diabetes etc) must not attend.

Any students presenting with ANY symptoms of COVID-19, or any from a household where any members display such symptoms must not attend.

The School day will run from 08:45 - 15:35 as normal. No student may be in School outside of these hours.

Transport: Lincolnshire County Council have asked Delaine Buses to continue to operate all school-day services which includes every service that serves our School. As these are local bus services, fare-paying students can use them as normal.

Current season tickets are valid. You may check www.delainebuses.com or follow Delaine Buses on @delainebuses as there are a few anomalies where stopping points have been revised.

Food: A limited selection of food will be on sale in *The Chill*. Students in receipt of Free School Meals will, if not in School, receive vouchers which can be redeemed at supermarkets or local shops. This is an electronic system which may not be in place immediately.

Dress: Students must wear their normal School uniform.

School Holidays: There are no plans for the School to be open during the School holidays.

FINALLY

Finally, as stated in the Government advice: *If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.*

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Maddox".

Jonathan Maddox
Headteacher