



THE HELENA ROMANES SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

19 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arrangements from Monday 23 March 2020 onwards

Further to the letters that I sent to you previously, I am writing to provide additional information regarding our next steps. The national situation continues to change at pace and the plans set-out below will no doubt evolve over time. I will try to outline them as clearly as possible.

For the vast majority of students, school will be closed until further notice

- On Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 March, students in Years 7-11 will be directed to appropriate learning activities on our school website. Year 12 and 13 students will be set tasks directly via *Show My Homework*.
- Teaching staff will be available during the two days to answer questions and provide advice to students via their school email addresses.
- From Wednesday 25 March onwards all students will be set work to be completed in line with their usual timetables. This work will be set via *Show My Homework*.
- For example, students will be expected to undertake English tasks between 9.05 and 10.05 on a Monday if they normally have English during period 1 on a Monday.
- Subject to availability, teachers will be on hand to answer 'live' questions and provide support during the lesson, via email.
- Where a teacher is unavailable, work will still be set and there will be a note highlighting the teacher's unavailability.

For the following students, school will remain open from Monday

- Students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and those who have a social worker. We will make contact with parents/carers of these students separately.
- Children of key workers who are unable to remain at home unsupervised.

Key workers

- The school will be open for the children of key workers, should their parents require this level of support.
- These students will be supported 'remotely' by their normal teachers and receive 'virtual' support in the same way as the rest of their classmates who are working at home.
- They will follow the normal pattern of the school day and will be supervised by staff throughout the school day.

Parsonage Downs, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 2AU

T 01371 872560 F 01371 874632 E enquiries@hrs.education www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Daniel Gee BA(Hons), MA, NPQH

Requesting school provision as a Key Worker

We are currently awaiting the Government's definition of a key worker. Once we have this we will send all parents/carers an online form to complete, should they wish to.

You should complete this form if:

- you want your child to attend school either full time or part time
- and you either:
 - live in a single parent household, and your occupation meets the government's key worker definition
- or:
 - you live in a two parent household, and both of your occupations meet the government's key worker definition

A note on Year 11 and 13 students

- Work completed by students in Years 11 and 13 may be needed as evidence to support their final grades. As a consequence, it is important that students complete this work to the best of their ability.
- We will inform you about the Government's response to Year 11 and 13 examinations as soon as we are notified.
- As time passes, we will provide Year 11 students with bridging work to support their transition to A Level courses. In addition, Mrs Wright will be in touch shortly about HRS Sixth Form applications.
- We will also aim to link Year 13 students with work appropriate to their chosen next steps as they get closer to the end of the year.
- We are committed to holding events that mark the successes of both year groups as soon as we possibly can.

Free school meals

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about how we can continue to provide this with support from a scheme that the Government has announced. In the meantime should any family be experiencing difficulties, please contact the school on enquiries@hrs.education.

I hope that this letter provides a helpful overview of our next steps. We will provide further information in due course.

Best wishes,



Daniel Gee
Headteacher