



THE HELENA ROMANES SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

18 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure that you will have heard this evening's announcement from the government.

My feeling over that last few weeks has been that it was a case of 'when' not 'if'. That did not make hearing the news any less moving. This is a significant step, and one that demonstrates what a serious position we face both in our country and across the world.

The government have acted to protect us and, in turn, at HRS we will do everything that we can to support our local community.

From our perspective, there are things that we know and things that we don't know at the moment. It is important to be honest with you about this. We know that our school will close indefinitely from Monday for the overwhelming majority of our students. We also know that we will be in a position to ensure that all students are regularly set work by, and receive feedback from, their teachers. We have been preparing for this for a couple of weeks now.

What we don't know yet is what the provision will look like for the small number of students who will still be able to access the school. We heard this news at the same time as you. We have already developed initial plans and we will be continuing to work on this tomorrow.

We know that our students in Year 11 and Year 13 will not be sitting examinations this summer. While this will no doubt cause significant concern for those affected (and I say that as a Dad of a Year 13 student) it is important to stay focused on the government's indication that the students will still get the results that they deserve. A quick word from me to our Year 11 and 13 students- it will be OK.

It is vital that you bear with us as we assess and work through the implications of today's announcement. We will be in touch again tomorrow.

A little advanced notice, we are now aware of further staff absence tomorrow. While we will not be partially closing the school tomorrow as it is too short notice for you, it is likely that there will be partial closure on Friday. We will update you as soon as we know.

Thank you so much for your patience, support, and kind words at what is a very difficult time for us all.

Take care,

Daniel Gee
Headteacher

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