



# RUTLISH SCHOOL

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**Headteacher: Ms L. Howarth**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

As you will be aware, UK schools will close for most children from **Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice**. I realise that the closure of schools is distressing news for the entire school community and will leave many anxious. The government has asked parents to keep their children at home to reduce the risk of spreading the infection and adopt social distancing.

The school will be open for the vulnerable students and those whose parents and carers are 'critical response' workers from 8.30 am – 2.50 pm on Monday 23 March – Friday 3 April. We will not be able to facilitate the usual timetable of lessons however we will provide some activities throughout each day. Your son will need to attend school in uniform, bring basic school equipment, water bottle, packed lunch, PE kit and a reading book. The canteen will be open at break and lunch time to purchase food. At this moment, I am in discussion with Merton regarding the provision of childcare during the Easter holidays.

Following the communication sent on Friday, I understand that many parents and carers whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response will be able to keep their son at home; **there is no need to send them school unless absolutely necessary to do so**. Please read the guidance if you would like some more advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

## Examinations

The Government have announced that the BTEC, GCSE and A Level exams will not take place in May and June. Our students have worked hard preparing for their exams and the uncertainty about what arrangements the government will put in place has no doubt caused a great deal of anxiety. The current position can be found on the link, please share this with your son:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

Exam boards will provide advice on unfinished coursework to schools as soon as possible. Ofqual is working with the exam boards to agree a calculated grade process that will take into account a range of evidence including, for example, non-exam assessment and mock results; the approach will be standardised between schools and colleges to ensure that the approach taken is as fair as possible. Ofqual will not be using teacher predicted grades but will use some form of teacher assessment.

Results are expected to be published in late July. Students who do not feel their calculated grade reflects their performance will have the opportunity to sit an exam, as soon as is reasonably possible after schools and colleges open again.

Universities have been asked to be flexible and do all they can to support students and ensure they can progress to higher education.



## Year 11 and Year 13

Please continue with your studies as directed by teachers. For those who have not yet completed their BTEC assignments, please finish these and upload the work on Fronter (Year 11) and Google Classroom or Fronter (Year 13).

## Year 7-10 and Year 12

All staff have worked tirelessly during the last few days to ensure there are some learning activities in place. Work has been put on Fronter for your son to do; the link and instructions can be found on the school website.

Please continue to look at Fronter every few days to view the home learning activities. Year 10 exams will be set on Fronter during the next week; students should continue to revise and prepare for these. Year 10 and Year 12 who study BTEC courses, please consider what elements of your assignments you can research and complete whilst at home. We are also uploading some new wellbeing resources on the school website during the next week.

### Please take time to read the following documents:

- Stay at home: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>
- Social distancing: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

I would like to thank you all for your support during the forthcoming weeks. I wish you and your family well and that you stay safe. I will write to you again next week.

With kind regards,  
Ms L Howarth  
Headteacher

Copy: staff, governors

