



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL

Phone: 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820

Website: www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk

Principal: Mr J Hodgson



Archdiocese of Birmingham

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So, we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

19 March 2020

Dear parents/carers

Further to my letter late yesterday I write to confirm the next phase of action for Hagley Catholic High School in response to the Government announcement to close school from tomorrow afternoon.

As of tomorrow, Friday 20th March 2020, Year 11 and 13 lessons will cease. Students are not to attend school, and I have already written to parents/carers about this.

I'm sure you will all join me in wishing them well but also spare a thought and prayer for the utter devastation many of them felt for the swift ending to their educational year and the impact and uncertainty regarding their qualifications.

Year 7 to 10 and Year 12 are still able to attend school tomorrow and lessons will still be run as per their timetable. Any students in Year 11 and 13 who are in the vulnerable group category and whose parents are key workers are also welcome to attend on Friday.

Tomorrow each pupil in Year 7 to 10 will be sent home with an exercise book for them to use for all their home learning during this period of closure, while some students have already taken their exercise books home with them today.

All home learning will be set on ClassCharts in the homework section. Teachers will ensure work is set that provides learning activities of up to no more than 5 hours per day. Work may be set to complete lesson by lesson as per their school timetable, but equally some staff may set longer projects to work on over a directed period of time.

Students will be able to contact their teachers via their school email accounts during school hours, but a swift response cannot, under the current circumstance, always be guaranteed, especially if a member of staff has also been taken ill.

I would encourage parents/carers that, where possible, your children are encouraged to continue to follow a timetable while at home. This should also include down time, breaks, exercise and time to talk to and video call their friends. A timetable will help you and them to manage their time well and continue to engage in purposeful tasks and learning.

As requested by Government Hagley is currently expecting to be open next week to students from all years who fall into the vulnerable categories already announced (any child with an EHCP or Social Worker) and to children of key workers who fall into the categories to be announced by Government later today.

When this is over, may we never again take for granted

A handshake with a stranger

Full shelves at the store

Conversations with neighbours

A crowded theatre

Friday night out

The taste of communion

A routine check up

The school rush each morning

Coffee with a friend

The stadium roaring

Each deep breath

A boring Tuesday

Life itself.

When this ends,

may we find

that we have become

more like the people

we wanted to be

we were called to be

we hoped to be

and may we stay

that way - better

for each other

because of the worst.

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Consequently if your child falls into anyone of these categories (**once confirmed**) and you would like to send your child to school on Monday onwards then please contact school on attendance@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk or call school on 01562 883193 and choose the option for reception.

This will allow us to gauge the number of students needing school-based care and supervision and how many staff I need to run this and then confirm if it is viable.

Please be aware that if you are sending your child to school tomorrow our catering services are limited due to staff absence also. Therefore, we will not have sandwiches or cake to purchase tomorrow.

The buses operated by Thandi will run in full tomorrow. However, their services may be affected from next week if the demand is not great enough from those students coming to school. We will know more about this when we have confirmed student numbers tomorrow and shall advise accordingly. Any parents/carers whose children will not be attending school forthwith should contact Thandi directly if they have any queries.

During this period of closure we will still continue to offer safeguarding provision and should any parent/carer or student have any safeguarding or welfare concern they can email saferefuge@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk and the safeguarding team will pick this up and support you as the need requires. We are also developing mental health, safeguarding and home learning planning resources for all students and these will go on to the website by Monday.

Finally, I can confirm all future calendared events have now been cancelled or postponed until further notice.

Thank you one and all for all your patience, understanding and support over the last few days and in anticipation of that support and understanding continuing in the days and weeks ahead.

I shall write to you all again to confirm the final arrangements and policy for home learning from Monday. But in the meantime, please do take care, be strong and resilient, be kind and look out for each other, and ultimately try to be well and safe.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing to you and all your families.

Yours sincerely



J Hodgson
Principal