

18th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

School Closure

You may have heard the Prime Minister's announcement earlier this evening that schools across the UK will close at the end of the day on Friday in order to better manage the impact of the Coronavirus. We have been expecting this and now need to implement our plans for school closure.

We will commence our *Remote Learning Plan* (shared with you earlier today) on Monday, 23rd March 2020 and the Quest Academy site will be closed to students after the end of the day on Friday.

Until then, students who are able to attend school should continue to do so, as normal. Unless specifically indicated, students should not come to the Quest Academy for any reason after Friday until advised otherwise.

Remote Learning Plan

On Monday staff will begin uploading tasks to Show My Homework for students to complete. Please check all login and access issues before Friday.




For students who may have difficulties in accessing work online, *Subject Learning Packs* have been prepared and will be distributed before the end of this week to those students who request them.

Summer Exams

The Prime Minister announced this evening that GCE and GCSE examinations would not take place in May and June, as scheduled. Although he gave a commitment to ensuring that students would be awarded with the qualifications they deserve, there has not yet been any further detail as to how this will happen. At this stage, despite this unsettling development, it is important that students in Year 11 and Year 13 continue to focus on their studies and follow the advice of their teachers. I suspect that Ofqual will make an announcement soon and we will update students and parents accordingly, as soon as we have further details.

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Children of Key Workers & More Vulnerable Children

Despite school closure, schools are being asked to make provision for children whose parents are “key workers” in order to support them in being able to continue to go to work, and also more vulnerable children, e.g. those who are supported by a social worker or have an EHCP. We will contact parents separately to ascertain how many students we have who would fit these descriptions and whether or not parents would want to make use of such provision. The responses will help us to plan appropriately.

Staying in touch

In addition to setting work through Show My Homework, teachers may communicate with students through the school email system, so students should continue to check their school emails regularly. Parents and students can continue to email staff, as well, with any particular queries or concerns and Tutors should remain the first point of contact for pastoral queries.

We will continue to use the website www.thequestacademy.org.uk to post any important communications. For any general enquiries, please use office@thequestacademy.org.uk

For several days now we have lived with the uncertainty of possible school closure. Now we know that we will not be operating as normal after Friday and the uncertainty shifts to the duration and the impact of the closure. Whilst we will now not see the vast majority of students or parents in person for an extended period of time, we shall continue to support our community as best we can. Please get in touch with us at any time, should you require our assistance or support.

On Friday, Period 6 will be a tutor period. Tutors will check that students have everything they need and are prepared, as best they can be, for a period of school closure.

With best wishes to everyone at this very challenging time.

Yours faithfully

Mr A. Crofts
Principal