

19 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Covid-19 (Full Closure of Kingsmead School)

Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, announced last night that schools across England will close at the end of the day on Friday. Children of 'key workers' and certain other vulnerable children are able to continue to attend in order to support students and families and reduce pressure on the NHS and public services.

Please be aware that it is **only** these student groups who are to attend Kingsmead School during school closure. There will be a separate communication relevant to these groups. We must also remember that many of our staff have children who will need their parent at home, reducing further our capacity to have large numbers of students in school.

The purpose of this letter is to ensure you have all the information necessary to support your family at home and to contact us if you need to.

Provision for families and children who may need additional support

We intend to contact relevant parents/carers in order to offer provision at Kingsmead School from Monday 23 March 2020.

Free school meals

We await further clarification from the Government regarding provision for students in receipt of Free School Meals. We will contact the relevant parents/carers with this information as soon as it is available.

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern regarding a Kingsmead student during this period of closure, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Andy Dunnett, or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Beth Warwick. Please call Kingsmead School on 01984 623483 or email andy.dunnett@kingsmead-school.com or beth.warwick@kingsmead-school.com

Arrangements for learning at home during school closure

Please refer to our 'Guidance on Remote Learning via Firefly' document regarding arrangements for learning at home during school closure. This document will be emailed to parents in a separate communication. Year 9 and 10 parents/carers have already received this information.

Cont'd/...

CARE

ASPIRATION

RESPECT

DETERMINATION

Wiveliscombe, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2NE

 contact@kingsmead-school.com

 01984 623483

www.kingsmead-school.com

Teaching staff will provide learning online through Firefly, which may include pre-published teaching/instructional videos. Students without online access will receive resources to support their learning in the post.

Collection of exercise books from Kingsmead School

If you wish to collect a learning resource from school please do not attend site without prior agreement after Friday 20 March 2020. Instead email contact@kingsmead-school.com and we will respond to confirm collection arrangements.

Exams

The scheduled GCSE examinations for May and June 2020 have been cancelled. We do not currently have any further detail, other than the following statement from the Government: "Exams will not take place as planned, but we want to ensure children get the qualifications that they need and deserve." Once we receive clarity about arrangements for examinations or college entry, we will communicate with all Year 11 parents/carers.

We appreciate what an incredibly difficult and anxious time this is for all students and their families. We will do everything within our power to support you with the right information as it is released to us.

Yours faithfully

Mark Williams

Mark Williams
Head Teacher