



18th March 2020

Dear Parent(s) / Carer (s)

Important Announcement: School Closure

I write regarding the ongoing Coronavirus situation, which we all know is an unprecedented global challenge and already having a significant impact on St. Olave's Grammar School. Our collective commitment to all of our children has never been more important and we know that we will all pull together to support our staff, pupils and parents in the weeks ahead.

As you will be aware the Government have instructed that English schools will close at the end of the day on Friday until further notice. Students are reminded that work will be regularly posted on MOODLE and Microsoft Teams as outlined in my letter on Monday.

The Government have also made it clear schools should remain open for the most vulnerable children and the children of key frontline workers who would be unable to work in the event of a complete school closure.

If you are a key worker and would be unable to work in the event of a school closure you must contact Rochelle Maxwell (rmaxwe@saintolaves.net) if your son is in Years 7 to 11 and Matthew Birtchnell (mbirtchnell@saintolaves.net) if your son or daughter is in the Sixth Form by **3:30pm tomorrow** (Thursday 19th March) specifying your role as a key worker. This will allow us to plan our provision and ensure all students are safeguarded appropriately within school.

I need to make it clear the Government have stated "the scientific advice shows that these settings [schools] are safe for this small number of children to continue attending, but asking others to stay away will go towards helping us slow the spread of this virus."

In order to minimise the number of people in school including staff, and follow Government guidance, we are planning to have a skeleton staff presence. This will only allow students to be supervised. Students will not be taught as they normally would, will be expected to work independently and access the work posted by subject teachers. Preferably students would remain at home as it will go towards helping slow the spread of this virus.

Examples of key workers in the current circumstances are: NHS staff, blue light services, health and social workers, teachers and delivery drivers who would be unable to work due to childcare commitments.

The safety and wellbeing of our community remains a top priority for everyone at Saint Olave's Grammar School. Thank you for your understanding, patience and continuing support. We will update you when we receive further information.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Rees
Headteacher