

# HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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*A Church of England School  
providing a Values Based Education*

18<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

*Update letter*

Thank you for all your kind words and support over the last few days – we really are in ‘strange times’!

We now have an action plan (!) which we are implementing at the moment but is subject to change as its an ongoing situation. Highlights include the following:

a) Operating the school in the event of staff absence

- If there are not enough staff to ensure safe supervision for students, the school may be closed or partially-closed.
- If faced with a partial closure, we would prioritise Year 6 as the last year group in school. This could change.
- Depending on the nature and concentration of staff absence, we would close the school to Year 8 in the first instance, followed by Year 5, then Year 7 and finally to Year 6.

At the moment, we are managing the situation by employing a small number of excellent supply/agency staff to cover staff absence.

b) Arrangements for students working from home during periods of significant absence:

- Use online platforms to communicate/share work
  - Show my homework
  - Weduc
  - Mymaths / DoodleMaths / StudyLadder
- Create emergency learning packs for students self-isolating and create accessible link/area for parents to access materials on website (NB. These are now ‘live’ and can be found in the ‘Students’ section) ... or email directly.
- Create packs of materials for each year group which can be distributed weekly via Show My Homework teachers will be responsible for uploading to individual classes.
- Consider how to support families without access to technology (thank you for returning the questionnaires sent home earlier in the week – please let us know if you have issues accessing technology).
- We may consider using video technology to present lecture-style lessons if there is a prolonged period of closure.
- We are considering how we may establish pastoral support for students and families during a prolonged closure, especially those who have Free School Meals.

This is an evolving situation and, even as I write this update, the national picture seems to be changing again. We will continue to keep you informed any further developments.

Stay safe – all best wishes

*MG Simpson*

MG Simpson  
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Van Der Merwe – Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan  
Acting Assistant Headteacher / DSL: Mrs J Davies  
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