



Wednesday, 18 March 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

With the introduction of new measures announced on Monday, we have seen significant increases in staff and pupil absences. We are aware that there is an impact of school closures on the wider workforce, including those in health and care services, however, we have no choice but to implement a partial closure in response to reduced staffing levels. This has been a very difficult decision for the school to make but one that is necessary to safeguard pupils.

With effect from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, school was closed to Year 8 pupils. As of Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March this will be extended to also include Year 9 pupils. This will be for the remainder of this week but we will update you should the situation evolve and develop. School remains open, as normal, for Years 7, 10 and 11. We are taking all possible steps to provide continuity of education for those pupils who may not be able to remain at home alone and those preparing for exams.

The health and safety of our pupils and families is a key consideration. We do recognise the impact of time away from school on our pupils, and their learning, and are making provisions to ensure that students have work available to complete in this time which will be assessed. Hazel Wood High School will put into place the following for those students in Year 8 and Year 9 that have been affected by our decision:

- Packs of work will be available to collect from Hazel Wood High School Reception from midday Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March for those **who do not have access to the internet**.
- Work will be uploaded to the Hazel Wood High School website for all subjects by midday Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March for those **with access to the internet**.
- Work may be set on SENECA Learning for those students with internet access and further details will be provided.
- Updates will be added to our website and sent via letter/email/text where needed. Please check that we have your relevant contact details to ensure you receive these promptly.
- Due to the unpredictable situation we have planned work for the next three weeks. Please note, this is not indicative of our plans but is available should this be needed.

Please be reassured that all decisions will be taken in the best interest of the health and wellbeing of our students and the wider school community. We thank you for your continued support as we work through this challenging situation together.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Greenhalgh".

Mr P Greenhalgh  
Headteacher



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