

THIS WAS SENT AT 2PM BUT DID NOT ARRIVE - APOLOGIES A PROBLEM WITH PARENT MAIL

Sent By: Miss Emma Hillman

Sent 19 Mar 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your continued patience and the feedback you have given. I do hope you are all coping with the stresses of this situation. An early warning that *school will be open only for Year 7, 8 and 9, as well as the key groups, tomorrow up to period 3. Lunch will be served during period 4 and pupils can leave at the end of period 3 or after they have eaten. Pupils will be dismissed from 11.30 onwards.* However, we will be offering pupils who are not in a chance to come in and get their books, contents of lockers in the afternoon and further information will be provided about this later.

A few key updates:

Home Learning

Further information will be sent out later.

Access to ICT

Mr Hutchins is working through the list of pupils who do not have computers and SEN pupils who use them in school and, where we can, we are issuing laptops. These need to be signed for by the pupil and also the parent via Parent Mail. We only have limited numbers and I believe I am aware of all pupils who need them. Please contact Mr Hutchins - nhutchins@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk if you haven't already. He will also be calling parents of pupils who are not in school but identified as needing ICT to sort out getting these to you.

Key Workers

We are still waiting for the official list from the Government. Please do continue to let us know if you are key workers or are not sure and we can compile a list to cross-reference when we have further information. I will extend the deadline to midday tomorrow. We do not know if care workers will be included but do let us know if you are one of these and use my list from yesterday as guidance. I will send out the new one as soon as it is released. The Government are suggesting that the Local Authority set up hub schools so the childcare for key groups (this is not education) will not necessarily be at Heathcote - they have not yet decided the hub schools. We have compiled our list of vulnerable pupils based on our information. If you are concerned about your child's mood or mental health at this difficult time, do please email me and we will try and support these pupils in a virtual way or by signposting to other services over the next few weeks.

Free School Meals and Financial Concerns

Thank you to those who have contacted me - we will do all we can to help but are still waiting for further information from the Government about this.

Year 11 and 13 Exams

At this point, I am unable to give you further information about GCSE, BTECs and A Levels. Other than to say, I am truly gutted for Year 11 and 13 and the hard work that they have shown up to this point. We have advised them to continue working, however hard that may be for them, as they need to ensure they prepare for the next steps of their education. We will update you about sixth form applications as soon as we are able. We will also plan an event for them once all this is over.

Communication

We are trying to respond to as many questions as we can but in many cases, I will send out answers via these letters rather than individually. I will not be offended if you chase me up/email if we haven't got back to you about an important issue.

Trips Abroad

We are currently seeking legal advice about these trips and whether to postpone or cancel and will update you as soon as we have further information.

Employment

I thought you some of you may be interested in employment opportunities that Sainsburys are offering. <https://sainsburys.jobs/>

An on-going thank you and respect to my amazing staff, pupils and you who are all dealing with this so well. True Heathcote spirit.

As always, some of this may be subject to change but we will always try and give you as much warning as we can

All the best

Emma Hillman