

Educate for life

Dear Parent / Carer,

I wrote to you last week following the Government's announcement just before the New Year about when pupils would return to school this term.

I am sorry to be writing to you again so soon on this subject. However, as you may have seen, the Prime Minister has last night announced a new national lockdown because of rising infection rates of Covid-19 and to try to prevent the further spread of the virus.

As part of this, all primary schools, secondary schools and colleges in England, including our school, Cowes Enterprise College, are to be closed from today until at least the end of half term in February, except for children of key workers or vulnerable children. Early years settings remain open.

The Prime Minister also announced that "not all exams" would go ahead as normal this year and that there would be alternative arrangements. He said the Government would set out further details on this at a later date, and when that information is announced, we will update parents of students due to take exams this year.

From today:

If you or your partner is a key worker, or if your child is classed as vulnerable, then the school will remain open, as now, and we look forward to seeing them in school today and beyond. For information on those listed by the Government as vulnerable or a key worker please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

As you know, we have worked incredibly hard since the start of the pandemic in March to keep our school as safe as possible, and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the safety measures in place at our school:

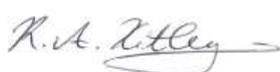
- All students and staff must wear a face covering in communal areas, unless exempt
- Everyone is expected to remain in their allocated bubbles
- Students are encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the day

For all other pupils, our school is closed until at least the end of the February half-term. High-quality remote learning will be provided to make sure they continue to receive a consistent education. We know that this places pressure on you at a difficult time but your support in helping your child engage with the remote learning work as much as possible is so important and we are very grateful for it.

We will continue to stay in touch with you on this matter, and about your child's education. However, do let us know if you would like to discuss this matter, or if you require any support relating to these new arrangements using the email address info@cowesec.org.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation. Please continue to take care and to stay safe.

Yours sincerely,



Rachel Kitley
Principal