



Beths Grammar School

an 11-18 selective school with academy status

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Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus: COVID-19

As you are aware, as a school we are continuing to monitor the situation regarding the Coronavirus and are receiving daily updates from the Department for Education, details of which we are passing on to you if and when there are any major updates.

The advice from the Government is that, whilst in the 'containment phase' schools should remain open unless told otherwise. However, as the Prime Minister will chair an emergency COBRA meeting today where it is expected that we may move into the 'delay phase', this could mean that schools will be asked to close.

Please be assured that we have put contingency plans in place in readiness should this happen. We are asking staff to ensure that there are on-line resources available for students through ShowMyHomeWork/Fronter/Itslearning, or similar, and the plan would be that, during the time that your son or daughter would normally have a lesson, that teacher would be available should they wish to contact them via email. However, some staff are looking at other ways to ensure that students are taught and this could be by using Microsoft Teams, YouTube or similar.

We will issue all students with details of where resources can be found and which learning platforms staff plan to use. All of this detail will be kept on the school's website and updated frequently throughout any closure.

Our students taking examinations during May and June will obviously take precedence as it is important that they are well prepared for the GCSE and A Levels that they will be facing. Students should now have completed/be nearing completion of their preparation so should be in a period of consolidation and revision. However, please be assured that work will be set by all subjects for all year groups.

Additionally, the Department for Education has launched a new helpline for staff, parents and young people to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. The helpline can be contacted as follows: phone: 0800 046 8687, email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk. Opening hours: 8.00am-6.00pm (Monday to Friday).

As I said at the top of this letter, we will keep you informed of any updates, as and when we have them.

Yours faithfully

Mr R J Blyghton
Headteacher