



Dear Varndean families

Coronavirus update 30th March

As we start week two of closure I wanted to share a brief outline of the week ahead so you know what to expect.

Students will be continuing with their offsite learning activities each day. As I stated last week this is new territory and I know there have been some teething problems. We are already working on improvements like reducing the number of emails to students and making sure tasks are clearly defined so it is easier for students to manage without their teacher's direct involvement.

The newsletter, released on Wednesday, will provide more detail on these developments as well as offering further advice for you on managing google classroom and on our expectations about the work that students should do. In short we do not want remote learning to be a source of family stress and while it is important that learning continues, parents will, and should, use their judgement about what works well for your family given your particular circumstances.

Wednesday will also see the release of our weekly school base assemblies and please do not forget the role our pastoral staff will play during this closure period. If there are general questions about accessing learning or the well being of your child then please contact your child's Deputy Head of school via email.

The Year 11 assembly is released this afternoon and we continue to share with the students frustration that information about how grades will be awarded this year has been so slow coming. The Department for Education has said there will be clarity in the first week in April, assuming that this means the end of this week we hope to be able to offer more detail then.

At the end of the week we will survey you to get more detail on your experiences of remote learning which we will use to inform our approach after the Easter break.

Friday is the end of term and so we will take a break from remote learning but given the National situation families will perhaps be looking for ideas to occupy their children. With this in mind we are compiling a list of suggestions that you may find useful and we will release this on Friday.

Over Easter the school will continue with its provision for the children of key workers through the holiday and I will write to these families separately to assess their need.



Please don't forget you can find all of our previous correspondence on our website [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes to you and your family.

Kind regards

Gareth Hughes
Acting Headteacher