

20 May 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for supporting your child with their ongoing learning, be that at home via Google Classrooms, as part of the onsite provision, or a combination of both! We recognise that the current circumstances are less than ideal, yet have been impressed by the effort and commitment to learning shown by many of our pupils. Teaching staff are continuing to explore different approaches to making remote learning more engaging, and we welcome feedback from pupils as to what methods they are finding to be the most effective and helpful.

As you know, it is half-term next week (25-29 May), and so I thought I would take the opportunity to summarise for you the provision that is in place over the next few weeks. (This may be subject to change, so please do keep checking for correspondence from the school.)

### Half-term (25-29 May)

Teachers will not be setting work on Google Classrooms for the half term break.

Onsite provision is available for the children of keyworkers whose role is critical to the COVID 19 response from Tuesday 26 May to Friday 29 May. The school is closed on the bank holiday, Monday 25 May (alternative arrangements for keyworkers' children who need provision on this day have been made via the local authority).

### After Half-term (01 June onwards)

**Years 7-9:** Teachers will continue to set work via Google Classrooms for pupils to complete at home.

**Year 10:** The Government has indicated that from the week commencing 01 June *at the earliest*, secondary schools are being asked to *plan to offer* some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 pupils *where this is viable*. The planning guide for secondary schools, which we expect to give details about the Government's expectations for this has still not been published (at the time of writing this letter). Consequently, the school does not anticipate being in a position to expand its onsite provision for Year 10 pupils during the week beginning 01 June; although plans and risk assessments are being made to facilitate this development in due course. Therefore, until further notice, Teachers will continue to set work via Google Classrooms for Year 10 pupils to complete at home.

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/news/more-children-possibly-going-to-school-next-month>

**Year 11:** Under normal circumstances the GCSE examinations would currently be underway. Information from Ofqual regarding this year's arrangements for the GCSE can be found via:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020>

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Mr Wharton has written to Year 11 pupils with links and information regarding the provision being offered at local colleges and useful websites to support study in preparation for A-Level and other qualifications. (Work will no longer be set via Google Classrooms.)

**Keyworker's children:** onsite provision will continue to be offered for the children of keyworkers whose role is critical to the COVID 19 response, to vulnerable children (primarily those with the support of a social worker) and to pupils with an EHCP (subject to a risk assessment). If your child has not previously attended this provision and you believe that they are eligible and require a place, please contact the school. (Please do not send your child to school until their place has been confirmed.)

I'm aware that many people's plans for the Whitsun Bank Holiday will have been adversely affected by the current situation, but hope that all members of our community will be able to find the time for some rest and relaxation over the half term period.

Yours sincerely

Ms S F Spivey  
CEO, Headteacher