

20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: COVID-19 Update 20 March 2020

Firstly, thank you for the incredibly supportive approach that you have taken during these exceptionally challenging times. It was a pleasure to speak to so many of you yesterday, the feedback was unanimously positive. Whilst we awaited advice from central government, I made a decision that we would contact our families to ask what they needed from us. Grange Park School will shut on the 20 March and we have agreed to support the families of those who requested support. At present we are expecting two pupils to attend at Wrotham (none from Stansted) and one at college. A committed small group of staff will provide childcare for these pupils. All other staff will be working their normal work hours unless they are unwell.

Our communication system, Parent Mail experienced "technical difficulties" yesterday and therefore we were late in sending yesterday's update. I tried to send emails myself and hope that you received them with appropriate notice, I apologise for the lateness in this communication. At present Parent Mail texts are not sending.

I am sure that you are all aware of our issues with the roof and we have work scheduled for the Easter Holiday. Today it was confirmed that the work will go ahead and subsequently the site will be closed for the duration of the school holiday. Work to the front of the building has started and will continue this weekend.

I will be monitoring the constantly changing situation, and we will keep you informed of the plan following the Easter holidays. Grange Park staff will be working and we will be in regular contact. A member of staff will contact you on a weekly basis to check in, and to provide the help and advice you may need. If you require additional work, help or support, can you please email the school at office@grangepark.kent.sch.uk and someone will contact you. There will be some admin support and we will check the answer phone every working day.

If you are in receipt of free school meals you will receive a voucher providing immediate support from the school, this is ahead of support offered by the government that will come into place from next week. This will involve us providing voucher cards to those in receipt of FSM to ensure continuity of this assistance.



I am sure you will join me when thinking about all our year 6, 11 and 14 pupils. I am committed to ensuring that we will have our leavers assembly and leavers meal. I hope to also arrange an event for each class later in the year so they can get together. I will be in contact nearer the time when we have more information and things are more settled. The school have scheduled transition for June/July and we will have to watch this space but will work with families to support the preparation for the next stage in their education journey.

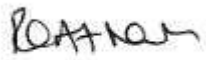
We are in close and regular contact with Mid Kent College and the partnerships and they are setting work on Moodle. Mr Cooper will update the parents of students at Hadlow once they have confirmed their arrangements. We will work with the college partnerships to manage year 11 and Key Stage 5 applications but anticipate that there will be delay in the usual process.

We have had no further update on exams and awarding of grades for students in years 11 and 13 who have seen their exams cancelled this year. This information is due today and I will update you all with any information we receive.

Supplies of pupil medication will be sent home today with pupils or will be posted home next week.

Thank you for your continued support, please take care and I look forward to welcoming the pupils back at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Renukah Atwell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miss Renukah Atwell
Headteacher