



14 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Coronavirus Update: Tuesday 14 April

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that the school will partially be open on Thursday 16th April.

As advised by the Government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of Key Workers. As all of our pupils have an Educational Health Care Plan they all fall into the vulnerable group category, but it would be unhelpful and almost impossible for us to fully open. Therefore, we have been asking you what we need from us at this difficult time. The Government advice remains that we should be staying at home and maintaining social distancing.

To date, I am expecting two pupils on a part time basis from Key Stage 3 and two college pupils to attend. I am being open and transparent in sharing this information as I know some of you have worried that your child may be missing out. These pupils are being cared for by a team of three staff and if necessary we have the resources to rotate staff to cover illness or a possible case of the virus. We are rotating the use of rooms again to reduce the risk associated with the virus possibly remaining on surfaces. The children who attend will not be following their usual timetable or lessons as the requirement is to provide childcare at this time.

Today I met virtually with the Extended Leadership Team and will meet with all the teachers on Thursday to review the work being set and how we will start the process of providing information to the exam boards for Year 11 and Key Stage 5 pupils. I will write separately to the parents of these pupils to explain this process and what will happen next.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn by setting work. We are mindful that some pupils will struggle with home learning and at this time it is important that you consider, both your own and their mental health and wellbeing. The pressure for some associated with home educating is unhelpful and unnecessary. Please encourage your child and do what you can but do not feel that everything has to be done. Teachers are here to help and pupils or parents can email the school office to request support office@grangepark.kent.sch.uk.



As a new term starts, teachers will set additional work, but please be reassured that if you have not completed the work sent home in the work pack last term, that is okay and we will support pupils on their return to school.

Last term we sent vouchers to the parents of those pupils who receive Free School Meals. The Government has set up a voucher system which can be used in a number of supermarkets. We will be using this scheme, which will send you a voucher once a week. It is therefore really important that we have the correct email address on file. The Progress Leaders will have been checking the details with you when they have called, but if you are concerned please do not hesitate in contacting the school. Ms McNally has been answering calls and checking the voicemails frequently so please do contact your Progress Leader or the school on 01732 882 111.

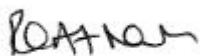
Progress Leaders will continue to contact you on a regular basis and additional opportunities for pupils to meet virtually with staff are in progress. Our primary teachers will be posting some stories on the website for our younger pupils. All letters, Government advice and updates are available on the school website at www.grange-park-school-kent.co.uk

This is as much as I know right now, and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via the school office or you can email me directly at renukah.atwell@grangepark.kent.sch.uk

Thank you again for your continued support, and I will be in touch with more information when we have any updates.

Take care and keep safe.



Ms Renukah Atwell
Headteacher