



DARRICK WOOD SCHOOL

RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | HONESTY

Dear Parent/Carer

Despite the government announcements yesterday and our ongoing staffing issues, we were pleased to be able to welcome students in Years 7, 11 and 13 into school today. Staffing continued to be problematic during the day and therefore we took the decision for Year 13 to leave after break and Year 11 to leave at lunchtime. However, having them here today allowed us the opportunity to speak to them about the situation with regards to their examinations. The information we had at the time, that they would not be sitting their examinations this summer, did not allow us to let them know how they would be given a grade. This information is still not available but once we are told we will inform you and them about this. I can understand totally their concern and worries about this having worked so hard this year.

Thank you so much for the many emails we continue to receive thanking us for what we have been trying to do over the past few days. Thank you also for the many offers of help. There have been too many to respond to individually, but as and when we are clearer about our needs we may well be in touch.

Tomorrow, Friday, 20th March 2020, as a result of anticipated low staffing levels, unfortunately we will not be able to open the School to any year group. Like today, we will, however, have enough staff to again welcome children of key workers. Email keyworker@darrickwood.bromley.sch.uk by 8am if you intend to make use of this provision.

From tomorrow teachers will be asked to set work via Bromcom in accordance with the timetable. They will do this as well as they can in the circumstances. Please encourage your children to have a structure to their day including time for learning, time for breaks and exercise ideally following the timetable from school.

Having listened carefully to what the Government has asked schools to do from next week and beyond, we are busy planning what we feel is possible and what our staff can offer. We may need more detailed information from you to inform our planning. For example, once the Government release their definition of 'key worker' in full. We will be in touch as soon as we have the full list.

We are aware that many pupils have items in school. They should not expect to pick these up at this stage. We will be in touch about this in due course.

For Years 11 and 13, it is important they keep very safe all their books and work from the past two years of study. We do not know whether this might be needed to inform grade setting. Some of this will be in school, but some will be at home.

The PE Department were planning for the GCSE PE moderation next Wednesday. This will no longer take place and similarly with all the qualifications we will be in touch as soon as we know more from the Government.

Thank you again for your understanding and support during what for all of us is a very challenging and unprecedented time. I will write to you again tomorrow.

Yours sincerely

Dr M J Airey
Head Teacher