



# Hertswood Academy

*Aim High • Achieve Excellence*

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your kind words, patience and support over these recent difficult days.

You will have heard the Prime Minister announcing yesterday that from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, schools will be closed until further notice.

We have been working very hard developing our online resources and you will be receiving separate information soon about how your child will continue their learning whilst at home. This will be extremely important for all year groups.

You will have also heard that external examinations will not be taking place in May and June. Students in Year 11 and Year 13 will, of course, be concerned and will need our reassurance until we have more information as to what this will mean. The Government has so far said that:

*"We will work with the education sector and Ofqual (the exams watchdog) to ensure children get the qualifications that they need."*

We will keep you updated as soon as further information becomes available. To help support our exam students, **Year 11 Assembly will take place in the Theatre tomorrow at 9:00am** and **Year 13 Assembly will be at 10:00am**. We will maintain our high expectations that all students continue their learning because this will put them in a good position when things return to normal.

In line with the Government's directive we will also be aiming to provide education on site as soon as possible for the following students:

## 1. Children of Key Workers

- For example, Medical, Nursing and Paramedic/Ambulance staff, workers in Adult Social Care, Teachers, Social Workers, Health Care Assistants and Administrators (in GP practices/clinics), Childminders, Nursery Staff, Fire and Police Staff, Delivery Drivers (who cannot make other childcare arrangements). The advice is that colleagues in these professions should show work identification to confirm their eligibility for this.

- The full Government definition of Key Workers can be found at <https://bit.ly/2Qwy484>.

- If you believe you are eligible as a Key Worker in any of the above categories, please click the link here (<https://forms.gle/Xbv6HKGQuizoKV42A>) to complete a form as soon as possible, and certainly by 1pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. We will not be able to plan and provide provision without this identification.

*(continued overleaf)*



2. Children who currently have EHCP plans or are defined as vulnerable and currently receiving support by Social Care

- We will contact these parents/carers separately with further information as soon as we can.

As always, we will continue to work closely with you. We know this is an anxious time for all. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, queries or concerns you may have. The best way to do so is through email, at [admin@hertswoodacademy.org](mailto:admin@hertswoodacademy.org).

Yours faithfully

Peter Gillett

Headteacher