



Lady Margaret School
Parsons Green
London
SW6 4UN

020 7736 7138

admin@ladymargaret.lbhf.sch.uk

www.ladymargaret.lbhf.sch.uk

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to my email yesterday afternoon you will be aware that schools in England are to close from Monday 23rd March, which means that Friday 20th March will be our final day of lessons at Lady Margaret School until further notice.

I would like to thank all our students, parents and staff for the many ways in which we have supported each other in the last few weeks. It will be incredibly sad to say goodbye to everyone tomorrow afternoon and I very much hope that it won't be too long before we are able to re-open.

Friday 20th March

On Friday 20th March we aim to operate a normal school day, as we have done every day this week. All students who are able to attend school should do so. We will run short assemblies for each year group during the morning to outline plans for studying during the period of school closure. We will have lunch as usual and at 1.40pm students will go to afternoon registration. **Girls will be dismissed from school at 2pm.** This means that I can then talk to all staff about plans for the closure period and staff will have some time to prepare for that in department teams.

From Monday 23rd March Lady Margaret School will be closed to students until further notice.

Remote Learning

Staff will set work for all classes via Show My Homework. Each day, students will be able to log on to Show My Homework and see work set for all of the classes they would normally have on that day. They should complete work set and, wherever possible, submit it online, again through the Show My Homework portal. Students should email their teachers directly using the school email system to ask for help and support. Staff will respond to student queries and will continue to set work through the period of closure.

It will be important for all students to follow a routine as far as possible, even during closure. Working on their studies in a routine each day will be helpful for them in many ways, particularly for when school resumes.

Public Examinations

As you know, it was announced yesterday that A Level and GCSE exams will be cancelled, but that arrangements would be in place to ensure students are awarded qualifications this summer. At the time of writing we do not know what these plans are, or how students in Year 11 and 13 will be assessed this summer. Therefore, all students in Years 11 and 13 should continue to complete work as set by their teachers in line with the expectations of the exam specifications. As soon as we hear more about how students will be awarded

qualifications this summer we will contact students and parents and put plans in place to make sure we do all we can to support our students. It is possible that we will be asked to give predicted grades for our students and that these would be used to award GCSE grades. In this case, it is likely that we would be asked to give evidence of our students' work to support these predictions. Therefore, students should keep all marked work and they should ensure they submit work of the highest standard, following instructions from their teachers.

Our focus will be on supporting all students to be able to move on to the next phase of their education this Autumn. All marks for the NEA will be submitted as planned today and students will be notified of the marks as per our planned examination procedures.

Communications with school

During the period of closure, I will send regular emails to students directly and to parents via parentmail or via the MyEd app. If you need to contact staff about anything, from health concerns to questions about work set, please continue to use the MyEd app or the admin email address admin@ladymargaret.lbhf.sch.uk. We will continue to direct all enquiries to the relevant members of staff via this email.

School Trips

All school trips planned for the remainder of this academic year will be cancelled. At this stage it is impossible to know when we will re-open. Even if we are able to return to normal school life in a relatively short period of time, it will be a priority to settle into our normal school routines again rather than organize trips. Activities Week trips will not run this year, even if we are back in school in June. Parents will be reimbursed fully for all payments already made for school trips. We will be going through all trips planned chronologically, starting with the ones due to take place soon. Please bear with us as we arrange for all the payments to be made to parents.

Key workers

As per my email earlier today, please contact us if you are a key worker and we can then plan resources accordingly for next week.

Free School Meals

We are putting in place plans to support students in receipt of free school meals and we will contact parents directly about what provision will be in place for students during closure.

Re-opening

As yet, we do not know when we are to re-open. During our period of closure I will be looking forward very much to seeing everyone walking into school in the morning, to talking to students and staff around school and to being able to write my message for 'Mentions' after a typically busy LMS week!

When a date for re-opening has been confirmed I will write to all students and parents to confirm plans. On our return we will follow the calendar as far as is possible.

Until then, we will stay in regular contact and we will support all our students as best we can. These are challenging and uncertain times. I am, however, confident in the strength of our community and our ability to support each other through this. Our school motto, from Psalm 16, is 'I have a goodly heritage'. Our girls are good friends to each other, they

support each other in times of distress, they are committed to their education, they are engaged in their studies, they are ambitious for the future and they care for our world. These things will, I hope, help them through the coming weeks.

With best wishes to all of you and I hope you keep well and safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elisabeth Stevenson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Elisabeth Stevenson
Headteacher