

19 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please see a short update from today, building on the points I made yesterday:

1. School will be closed from the end of the day tomorrow for an unknown amount of time. Your child's schooling will be moving online throughout this period. Please can all parents watch the simple "HOW-TO" video on how **KAA @ Home** will work (<https://stage.loom.com/share/a1cf882be15941b982b9a3c9a6b190c4>). Please also read this simple **Parent Guide to KAA @ Home** (<https://kaa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/KAA-@-Home-Parent-Guide.pdf>).
2. In addition to studying their subjects at home, students should use this time to read as many books as they can. Please encourage them to take books from the library tomorrow, if they are in. If not, they can access the virtual Library pages in KAA@Home.
3. Please email info@kaa.org.uk if you are worried about your child not having proper access to a laptop each day while school is closed (e.g. they have to share it with a number of siblings, or your WiFi has data limits). We aim to be able to give some laptops to students next week, on a priority basis, and where there is genuine need. We will write to parents who have requested this separately to discuss the process.
4. We are currently finalising plans for Free School Meals (FSM) students next week, and will confirm these tomorrow. Parents should not worry. If your child has had FSM before, or you believe you now would qualify as your wages will drop due to Coronavirus, we will provide FSM. In time, the government may establish a voucher system for use in supermarkets, but next week we may do it at school.
5. We will run a "skeleton school" for the next two weeks for only SEN students (those with EHCP); students whose parents are "key workers" (NHS employees, police, social workers – full list to follow); and "vulnerable students" (those who social services are involved with). We will create a formal sign-up process for this soon via our website, and may need to ask parents to evidence their eligibility. For now, please email info@kaa.org.uk if you would like to use this. Over Easter and during the summer term these "skeleton school" services will continue, although they may be organised at a borough level (so local schools will come together to offer one single option).
6. If your child has been self-isolating this week, they must not now come back tomorrow because they feel it is their last day. However, if your child is healthy (no cough, high temp) and everyone at home is healthy, then do send them to school tomorrow. We can talk to them more about KAA@Home and they can take some books from the library. Personal possessions which they will need during closure can also be taken.

I'll close by encouraging all parents and students not to worry too much. We are moving into a difficult period but **KAA is still here** and **this time will pass**. Also **exciting learning can happen at home**. More updates to follow in coming days, and do keep checking our website.

With best wishes,



David Benson
Principal