

19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Whole School Closure

As you will be aware the Government have announced that at the end of the day tomorrow, Friday 20th March, all schools in England will close. This is not unexpected and I would like to assure you that we have made preparations to continue your child's learning at home.

Communication will be essential in the coming weeks as we further improve our resources and support for all of our students.

Communication with the school will follow these guidelines.

- The school will contact you by email. If we do not have an email address for you yet, please send in your email address to info@osb.school
- We will add all letters and information regarding this period of time on the website www.orchardschoolbristol.co.uk under the tab 'parents'.

I am sure that everyone will understand that whilst the situation that faces us all is unprecedented. It is really important to maintain learning as best we can for your child. Our staff have been preparing materials and resources to support your child's learning and it is really important that you encourage your child to follow the timetable of learning given to them and to access all of the resources sent out and /or on-line.

We have attached details for your child's year group learning as a separate letter.

I want to assure you that we will continue to work hard throughout the closure period to keep resources coming to you along with regular communications to update you on any changes or developments to how we support all our students.

I recognise that this is a hugely worrying time for everyone and we will continue to provide students and parents/carers with access to pastoral staff. While the school is closed, our duty and responsibility to safeguarding our students remains. Our regular check-ins, every two weeks, with families needing a bit of extra help and support will continue throughout the period of school closure, just as if the school was open. Please do not feel offended if a member of the school staff calls to check in with you, and to speak to your child. If you

have any safeguarding concerns whilst the school is closed, for your child or for any other pupil from the school, please contact your Pastoral Manager during normal school hours:

Mrs Piper (Debbie) – Dunmore/yellow – d.piper@osb.school

Miss Pointing (Tracey) – Dirac/red – t.pointing@osb.school

Mr Elcock (Clive) – Pethick/green – c.elcock@osb.school

Mr Coxon (Dorian) – Ricart/blue – d.coxon@osb.school

For Year 10 and Year 11 specific concerns or queries please contact:

Mr Grafton (Mat) – m.grafton@osb.school

We are very conscious that we need to support those parents who are key workers following the announcement made yesterday by the Government on child care provision. We will be communicating with you to understand who of our parents fall into this group and if they are going to access this provision.

We are also aware that there are Government discussions taking place about provision for students who receive free school meals. We will share updates with you as soon as they are available.

If you have any concerns about this letter or would like to speak further, please contact reception on 0117 377 2000 or email info@osb.school up until the end of the day on Friday.

Yours sincerely