



10 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are aware, the situation around the Coronavirus is constantly changing. We would like to thank all of our community for their sensible and positive approach so far. We currently have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Ditton Park Academy. Whilst the advice from the Chief Medical Officer is to continue with daily life, we would like to take this opportunity to plan in case the advice changes.

Please note that if we were asked to take action, we would have to close the premises but teaching and learning would very much be open, with students expected to access learning remotely. This will involve teachers providing resources and setting work for students to complete online via Office 365 and Teams.

To prepare with your son/daughter:

Please talk to your son/daughter, particularly those in Year 11 and Sixth Form to ensure that they have ready access to relevant folders, exercise books and revision guides at home.

If the premises were to close, we would set work on Office 365 and Teams. All students have access to these systems, and they are used in a number of classes. Their username to access these systems is their school system username followed by DittonStudent.co.uk. Their password is the same as they use to access the computers in school.

However, if your son or daughter still cannot access either site or does not know their password please contact us via office@dittonparkacademy.co.uk.

If you do not currently have access to the internet at home, please let us know immediately by ringing 01753 537594.

Please be aware we would prioritise the marking of assessments and work submitted by our public exam classes if we were to operate in this way.

Public Examinations:

The regulator for UK examinations, The Joint Council for Qualifications, have a contingency plan which can be implemented in the event of major disruption to examinations. This includes an allowance for moving examination dates up to and including the 24th June, as previously advised you should not book any holidays before this date. We will continue to follow the guidance from JCQ and exam boards, and students should continue to prepare for the summer exams as usual.



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Nick Caulfield – Principal



SELF-WORTH ASPIRE SUCCESS HONESTY

Trips:

We have a number of overseas and UK trips scheduled. We are continuing to follow advice from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and from the respective travel companies overseeing each trip.

At this point, it would not be appropriate to take pre-emptive action, but any future decision will of course be taken following expert advice and in the best interest of the students and staff. Please ensure you are checking your Parent mails and the website regularly for updates.

Finally, please talk to your son or daughter and reassure them. It is important to be prepared but there is no panic; hand washing and catching any sneezes is the most important prevention right now. With these plans in place education will continue.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Caulfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nick Caulfield
Executive Principal