

Dear Parents

Re: Coronavirus Update

As you will be aware, the Government have taken the step of closing schools to the vast majority of pupils in order to help to stem the spread of Covid-19 (Coronavirus). School will be closed to the majority of learners from Monday 23rd March until further notice. The Government has stated that schools will offer childcare for two main groups of learners - children of 'key workers' (defined by Government) and identified 'vulnerable' learners.

Designated Key Workers

In order to ensure that people designated as 'key workers' can continue to work, attendance for this group of pupils is **optional**. Parents **should keep children away if possible** as the reason for this partial closure of schools is to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. We would **strongly urge** parents to make alternative arrangements where possible. In the words of the Government, *'the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society'*. Please help by keeping your child/children at home if at all possible. The school has been in contact with these specific parents.

"Vulnerable Learners"

Schools have also been asked to remain open for pupils who are defined as 'vulnerable' according to Government-determined criteria. Attendance for this group of pupils is compulsory and you would have been notified if your child is in this group.

Free School Meal Learners (not entitled KSI free school meals)

Learners who are in receipt of free school meals will be provided with an opportunity to collect a meal at lunch time but will not be attending school. Parents of these learners have been contacted.

If your child **does not** meet any of these strict criteria, school **will not** be open for them until further notice. A register of learners who are expected to be in school will be kept. If you have not been spoken to by a member of staff, please do not contact the school. However, if you have any concern about the wellbeing of your child during the period of school closure

please use the following email to contact a member of the Inclusion Team:
Support@marsden.lancs.sch.uk

Learning from Home

Learners who **will not be** in school will be expected to work from home. All work will be posted on the website as previously stated. Your child's learning is important to us and we will continue to help them to learn whilst at home. The Key Stage Leaders will send a separate letter to you with regards to further expectations and Home Learning activities.

Online resources will however never replace a teacher and so in order to ensure your child can continue with their education, we need your support. Please take the time to speak to your children about what they are learning, help them with the suggested activities and ensure they continue with their learning every day

This is a decision that has been taken by the Government and is one that has been designed to prevent unnecessary social contact to help overcome the spread of Coronavirus.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this incredibly difficult and uncertain time. Your support is greatly valued.

Kind Regards

Nicole Delamere



Live To Learn, Learn To Grow

