



2nd April 2020

I hope everyone is well and coping well with self-isolation / social distancing. The facts and figures delivered daily by the government are beginning to clarify the decision to close schools. The health and safety of the entire country is the most important factor in everything we are all doing and on behalf of the Woodham community, I thank you again for your ongoing support. I have a few important pieces of information to share with specific groups, plus some general notes for you all.

Students eligible for free school meals (FSM)

The government have now launched the FSM scheme. This will be a voucher-based system using on-line codes. If you are eligible for FSM, please reply to the email address below, stating:

1. The child's name
2. The child's date of birth
3. The email address you use to reply will be the address that the vouchers will be sent to

FSM@woodham.org.uk

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf

*Please note that the posted Tesco vouchers were organised by us as a school and are not part of the government process. We will not be posting these vouchers out again.

Year 11 students

In order for year 11 students to access their chosen college, training or sixth form provider, we must share with them personal details (e.g. name, address, DOB). We would normally have organised this whilst the students were in school, but as a result of the school closure, we will need to gain permission via an email. Please reply to the email address below, stating your name and that you are happy to share this information accordingly. If this permission is not gained, post 16 progression may not be possible.

Y11progression@woodham.org.uk

I stated last week that further information regarding grades would be released soon. It is my understanding that schools will receive clarification as to the process we must follow on Friday 3rd April. It is also my understanding that nothing has changed since my last update as to how we need to arrive at a final predicted grade. If anything changes, I will inform you accordingly, but as I write this today, my previous update remains valid.

All parents

The next two weeks were defined as the Easter holidays and this remains the case. Teachers will not be setting any work for students during this time. Ensuring all students are fully caught up with work by 20th April will allow them to make further progress next term. School will be remaining open for a small number of students over the holidays, but staffing will continue to be a bare minimum. info@woodham.org.uk remains the best method of getting in touch.

It would be great to see student's work / projects that they've been doing at home. I know that many families have been working hard and completing tasks in arts, food tech (lots of baking!) and other practical based subjects. If you would like to send photos of your work, we will put it on our Facebook page. It would seem to be a great way of keeping everyone in touch and may also give people some ideas.

Year 7 students send photos to a.abson@woodham.org.uk
Year 8 students send photos to p.groves@woodham.org.uk
Year 9 students send photos to v.fawcett@woodham.org.uk

I will continue to update the school website with any further developments. I have not received any notification as to when school will reopen but will share this information as soon as possible.

Hopefully the video link below will provide a little motivation for you all. Sometimes we fall over, sometimes we face problems, but it's how we deal with them and never give up!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtwk7KEfcKM>

Stay safe

Andrew Bell
Headteacher