

March 19, 2020

Dear parents and carers

### School Closure Update

Yesterday's government announcements have left us with a great many unanswered questions. What we do know is that:

- Schools will close to most students after Friday.
- Schools will remain open for vulnerable children and the children of Key Workers.
- Schools may be open over the Easter break for vulnerable children and the children of Key Workers.
- Norfolk County Council appear to be planning a combined provision to be shared across all schools within the Hewett Cluster for Key Workers' children.
- There will be no exams this summer but students will get qualifications in August (OFQUAL have said: *'We welcome the certainty that the Secretary of State's decision not to hold exams this summer provides in these challenging circumstances. We will now work urgently with the Department for Education to work through the detail of this decision and to provide more information as soon as possible.'*)

Whilst we await further guidance from government, we have:

- Given assemblies to all students this morning to update them and reassure them.
- Sent out a Key Worker survey to establish the demand for childcare from next week - please only complete this if you believe that you are a Key Worker.
- Contacted the families of vulnerable children to establish childcare need.
- Been in contact with Norfolk County Council to find out what a 'combined provision' is likely to entail.
- Begun to set up planned activities on ShowMyHomework - this will allow students to access their normal timetable of lessons online.

Students in Year 11 and Year 13 are naturally worried about getting their qualifications and it's our view (and it is only an opinion) that the government will combine predicted grades, student ranking and prior attainment (SATs or GCSE grades) to produce a final grade. Gavin Williamson has said that the actual method will be revealed tomorrow. However, it is important that students are reassured that they will get qualifications this summer which will enable them to progress to their next step in life.

### Social Media

Please follow us on Twitter @utcnorfolk for quick information about the whole school and @UTCNKS4 for Key Stage 4 information.

Also, follow us on Instagram @utc\_norfolk for UTCN updates.

### Dates for your Diary

Please look on the UTCN webpage for the Parents Calendar which is updated regularly. <https://utcn.org.uk/calendar>

April 6 to 17 - Easter Holidays  
May 8 - Bank Holiday  
May 25 to 29 - Half Term

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