

Dear Parents,

I am sure that by now most of you will have seen the announcement regarding the Government's updated instructions to schools. I appreciate that you may, therefore, be expecting an update from Gad's Hill School this evening detailing arrangements for beyond the end of the day on Friday 20th March.

If, however, you have had the opportunity to follow the entirety of the Education Secretary's announcement, you will be aware that there are a considerable number of issues relating to a partial closure of the school site and, as such, we are urgently seeking clarification on several matters.

Similarly, the announcement was made that GCSE examinations will not take place in May and June this year. I don't doubt that this raises huge questions tonight in the households of our Upper Fifth pupils. Again, we hope that further details will be forthcoming in the shortest time possible.

Given the need for further guidance from the Department for Education on the above issues, I must ask for your patience until tomorrow, when I will write to you again with details on our school's arrangements. May I ask you please not to call the school about such matters tomorrow morning, so that my colleagues will be able to focus on coordinating a timely response.

Thanks to parents who have been sensible and calm in their decision-making if their children have developed symptoms which could possibly relate to the coronavirus. I can confirm that the school has still not had any confirmed cases of Covid-19, although some pupils in the school have been kept home or taken home this week as a precautionary measure due to exhibiting symptoms of the virus. These symptoms are a temperature above 37.8 celsius or a new, persistent cough.

Thanks once again for all the support. I have received a number of offers of help from parents and many kind words of encouragement. The manner in which the community has rallied together is tremendously encouraging.

Kind regards  
Paul Savage

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