



25th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carer

AMENDMENT TO SCHOOL OPENING

These are exceptional times and our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families at this time.

As you may be aware, the school has sought to remain open to the children of key workers and vulnerable students. This offer has been accepted by very few parents and today no students attended site.

Following on from the briefing from the Prime Minister on Monday night that only essential journeys should be made, and the expectation of self-isolation and social distancing, I have come to a view that it is not reasonable for me to ask staff to travel to school without any guarantee that there will be children here to teach. I have sought the permission of the Chair of Governors, Fr David Evans and the Director of Catholic Education, JP Morrison, to close the school to the majority of staff in the short term so they can work from home. I have also advised the Hackney Learning Trust of this outcome. Skeletal senior and support staff will be at school.

This is not a decision that has been made lightly. Before the decision was made, I have secured the following:

- That all students were aware of the expectation that they should access Show My Homework and complete the work set there or other resources that were made available.
- That staff would ensure that work is uploaded to this platform.
- That all students were aware of the passwords required for online access.
- That all students have a nominated member of staff who will make contact with you on a weekly basis.
- That all parents/carers will be updated on how much online studying is being completed by each child.
- That all students who are entitled to Free School Meals will be provided with a voucher, which may be spent at a nominated supermarket. Further information on this is to follow, if you have not already been contacted by the provider.

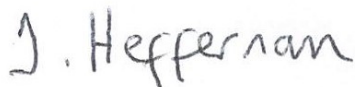
Into the future, based on feedback, the school will be looking to post resources home and will investigate how we can provide additional resources and support to families and our students.

I will review this decision on a regular basis, and take advice from relevant bodies. It is my intention that school will re-open on Monday 30th March 2020, subject to demand and I will write to you again. **In the interim, if you have any questions or seek provision for your child (if you are a key worker or your child/ward is a vulnerable child), please continue to contact the enquiries email and leave your contact details. Arrangements have been made for your child to continue at school supervised by senior staff.**

I am also aware that many parents and students will also be anxious about their summer examination results. A letter has been sent home to parents/carers about this.

As we journey towards Easter, it is good to remember that this is a season of preparation and sacrifice, but it is also one of hope. I look forward to a time when we will meet again and pray that we are all safe and well, until then.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Heffernan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ms J Heffernan
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER