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**TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS**

Our Ref: SKN/lha

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Due to continued staff absence, the Academy will remain in partial closure on Thursday 18th March. Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 should not attend unless their parents/carers are key workers. Key workers are defined by the Government as:

- clinical staff employed by the NHS;
- teachers, including further education teachers and Early Years/nursery teachers;
- police officers and community support officers in specified forces;
- frontline police staff (civilians) may also be eligible in some areas;
- prison officers and some Prison Service staff in prisons in specified areas;
- probation officers;
- local authority (LA) or NHS social workers;
- uniformed staff, in fire and rescue services;
- armed forces personnel;
- Highway Agency traffic officer staff;
- LA environmental health officers/practitioners;
- Care workers;
- Food / supermarket delivery drivers and other workers

Students in Years 7 and 11 should continue to attend the Academy, providing they are symptom free and the people they live with are also symptom free. Please continue to register absence using the Academy absence line.

It is anticipated that these arrangements will continue into Friday 20th March, although an update will be provided tomorrow based on staff absence due to self-isolation.

The Government today announced that all schools will be closed after Friday until further notice. The exception will again be those students whose parents/carers are key workers (as defined above but possibly subject to change following Government update) and 'vulnerable students' – we await the final definition of this group from the Government.

These are unprecedented arrangements and we will all require some time to process the information and put detailed plans in place to ensure we keep people safe, support each other and ensure all young

people are supported to learn over time. An example of this is that many students have requested to come into the Academy to collect their books – we will put a plan in place and communicate this very shortly.

I want to reassure you that staff at Hanham Woods Academy remain absolutely committed to all students whether they are physically attending the Academy or working remotely at home. We are also committed to support these students' families. If you experience challenging circumstances over the coming weeks or months, please do reach out to the Academy and we will endeavour to offer support. We have a designated email address for issues and enquiries related to the Academy closure and if you need to request support, please email [HWAclosure@clf.uk](mailto:HWAclosure@clf.uk)

We will continue to communicate via text, letter and through various social media platforms.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please stay safe and stay strong.

**Yours sincerely**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Kneller', written in a cursive style.

**Mr Steve T Kneller  
Academy Principal**