

18th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Coronavirus

Current Status – Partial Closure from Thursday 19th March

As you will know from the earlier email, it has been necessary to take the decision to partially close the Academy from tomorrow. This is because we are no longer able to operate safely due to widespread staff illness and self-isolation.

Students in Year 8, 9, 10, and 12 will be dismissed this afternoon as usual and should not attend school until further notice. If a parent/carer is struggling to make arrangements for their child for the remainder of this week, please send them in as usual, as long as they are well.

We are aiming to remain open for students in Year 7, 11, 13 and the International Group as long as possible. These students should attend school as normal and in full uniform. If your child is in Year 7, 11, 13 or the International Group and is self-isolating, please see <https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Home+Learning+%2D+school+closure&pid=1218> for further guidance regarding work.

If you are a parent/carer working in the front line health services, or emergency services, please make contact with margaret.breen@southfieldsacademy.com as we are aiming to remain open as long as possible for your children, even if it means that other students in the year group are not in school.

We understand that you may be worried about your child and their education. We are working hard to minimise the impact of current events on this and students who are being sent home will be given work today and will have access to work via our website and/or Google Classroom.

We have not been notified of any changes to exam arrangements for the summer term.

Communication and how you can help

Please download the My Child at School app. This app not only allows you to see work that has been set for your child, but also any communications that we send out. Full details for installing it are on the Academy website under the 'Parents' section. We will also be making work for students available on the website under the 'Parents' section <https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Home+Learning+%2D+school+closure&pid=1218>.

We will share new information with you as we receive it and we will alert you to this by email, text or the My Child At School app.

We are receiving high volumes of calls and emails and are endeavouring to respond as quickly as we can. Please bear with us and only contact the school if it is essential. We will be updating our website regularly with information as we receive it.

Reporting your child's absence

Please continue to use the usual systems for reporting absence and notify us by 8am of an absence or lateness. You can phone 020 8875 2600, option 1 or email us via natalie.stearn@southfieldsacademy.com.



**Southfields
Academy**

**Principal:
Ms Jacqueline Valin**

**Headteacher:
Ms Wanda Golinska**

333 Merton Road
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Tel: 020 8875 2600
Fax: 020 8874 9949

We also ask that you let us know if the absence is related to Coronavirus e.g.

- self-isolating due to Coronavirus-like symptoms;
- self-isolating following medical advice to do so (suspected Coronavirus);
- self-isolating due to a confirmed case of Coronavirus or
- other illness

If self-isolation, please state how long your child has been advised to stay at home for.

Latest Guidance

Remember, if your child, or anyone in your family, has symptoms of the virus (a **high temperature** – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back and a **new, continuous cough** – this means you've started coughing repeatedly), please visit

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for advice and next steps.

Supported Students

If your child usually receives support during the school day from our Pastoral team, we have set up a welfare line for them to be able to contact a member of staff. Please phone 07437 794201 (Larry Davis, Deputy Headteacher) or 07379 862150 (Sara Sharpe, Designated Safeguarding Lead).

Thank you for your support during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely



Jacqueline Valin
Principal



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher