



much
more than
just a school



16 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Over the weekend, senior colleagues have had time to reflect on what will be a challenging time for us all. The school will be guided by three core principles:

- The safety and wellbeing of all members of our community
- Following government advice and trying to stay open if it is in the national interest and possible with staffing
- Wellbeing and success

Obviously, we are unable to provide any certainties at present, but it is important that we respond to all eventualities in a calm and proportionate manner. Our students, in particular, require reassurance. This morning all students had an assembly at 8.30 a.m. regarding Coronavirus, which focussed on stating the facts surrounding Coronavirus, avoiding social media panic and staying safe.

As you would expect, we have plans in areas such as safeguarding and health and safety.

We are unable to provide details regarding GCSE exams, at the moment we assume they will continue as planned. We are preparing to ensure that matters are in hand in order to support students, especially those in Years 10 and 11. Should the situation change, on-line materials will be of crucial importance but we will also have paper copies, where needed, to assist learning. Teachers have already put resources on-line for each subject by year group. On-line learning access will be via:

Student website - this link will ask them to login with their school email address and password:

<https://pcshantssch.sharepoint.com/sites/students>

Microsoft Teams - students will already know if their Teacher is using Teams:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/>

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Success for All through Attainment, Resilience and Autonomy

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Resources are likely to be stretched over the next few weeks. It will be difficult to balance a desire to stay open – fully or partially – when there is also advice to use self-isolation ("stay at home") when appropriate, which applies to teachers and other staff as well as students.

Against this background every member of our community must play their part. Students should come to school on time and fully equipped each day unless they are unwell or showing signs of Coronavirus. Students themselves must wash their hands regularly and thoroughly. Please do follow the latest NHS guidance/Government advice – we do not want parents to send children into school when unwell, putting others at risk unnecessarily.

Current NHS advice is to stay at home if you have either a high temperature or a new, continuous cough. You must follow NHS advice to isolate if the symptoms persist.

In our determination to run as smoothly as possible, it is also vital that student behaviour is exemplary. Colleagues do not have time to waste, investigating or responding to poor conduct or anti-social behaviour.

We will continue to keep you fully informed over the coming days and weeks. Your full support in going over the items highlighted above with your child this evening is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Anders".

Christopher Anders
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ella Capaldi".

Ella Capaldi
Head of School