

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) – Update Wednesday 18 March 2020

As I am sure many of you will be aware, the Prime Minister has just informed us that schools across England will **close on Friday afternoon**. We will follow up tomorrow with more details of our closure, but we intend to finish the school day between 3pm and 4.30pm on Friday.

For **Boarders**, all houses will remain open on Friday night to support anyone who is not able to get home. For those who need to remain for longer than this, the school is remaining open to boarders throughout the remainder of this term, and the Easter break. The students will be relocated to one of the houses, and there will be a programme to support them during this time.

The Prime Minister has also stated that **children of Key Workers** should continue to attend school, if required, and I would ask that any parent who requires this support should let us know as soon as possible, and certainly by the end of Thursday 19 March, so that we can put plans into place as required. Please reply directly to this email.

The Prime Minister has also announced that **GCSE and A Level examinations** will not take place as planned in May and June, but we do not yet have the full details in relation to this. Clearly this will be hugely unsettling for all of the students who have been working so hard to prepare for these exams, and once we know more about alternative dates or arrangements, we will confirm our plans to support these students.

As things currently stand, the IBO (International Baccalaureate Organisation) is stating that **IB Diploma exams** will continue as scheduled.

The school has already put into place detailed plans for **remote learning** and further details and guidance will be provided in tomorrow's communication.

Thank you for your continued support, patience and understanding. We will continue to work hard to ensure the wellbeing of the children and wider community.

Chris Townsend
Headmaster, Felsted School

Simon James
Headmaster, Felsted Prep School

