

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Reference: Closure of school to pupils on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

I hope that you are keeping safe and well in these very challenging times.

Since we have returned from the half term break, we have experienced a significant increase in the number of pupils and staff who have tested positive for Covid-19. Coupled with this, we have also had a large increase in the number of staff who are unable to come into school because they are either unwell, shielding or have been identified as a potential contact of a positive case. This appears to be a common situation that many schools across the country currently find themselves in.

We have endeavored to maintain as near to normal education as possible with staff delivering lessons remotely. This is working well and I would like to thank everyone involved for their support with this. We currently have over 15 members of staff whose lessons require covering and are hoping that this situation will improve as periods of self-isolation come to an end.

Given this situation, we have taken the decision that all pupils will be asked to work remotely on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Our staffing levels reach a peak of absence on Friday and we will struggle to maintain the levels required to safely open the school. We will be asking all pupils to remain at home on Friday and complete work that will be set on Class Charts.

On Friday, school will only be open for the children of key workers and our vulnerable learners. If your child falls into the key worker category and you would like them to attend school, please could you let us know through the following email address: [keyworker@kingswolverhampton.co.uk](mailto:keyworker@kingswolverhampton.co.uk). If your child is eligible for a free school meal, parents are welcome to come and collect a meal from our school reception at 1pm on Friday. Please make sure that you email [freeschoolmeals@kingswolverhampton.co.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@kingswolverhampton.co.uk) by 9am on Friday morning to confirm your lunch order and collection time.

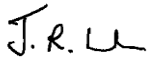
Please note that in our school calendar, this Friday we were due to celebrate The Feast of Christ the King Day in our usual way and a variety of activities to enhance pupils' spiritual, moral and social learning were planned. This day will now be postponed and will be re-run at a later date when staffing levels have stabilized.

School will reopen as normal on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November when we will welcome back Year 11 pupils following their period of self-isolation. Please may I remind you that any pupil experiencing symptoms of Coronavirus or who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive must not attend school and should continue to self-isolate for the stated period of time. We will continue to monitor staffing levels and will inform you as soon as we possibly can if we need to make alternative arrangements for particular year groups over the coming weeks.

I would like to apologise for any inconvenience that this causes and can assure you that we are only taking this action because we believe it to be absolutely necessary to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope that you keep safe and well. We pray for everyone in our school community who is affected by the on-going global pandemic.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. R. U.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Ludlow  
(Principal)

