

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who has been kind enough to send in messages of gratitude and support for our staff team. These have been very much appreciated.

In addition to the letter you will have received from Mr. Murphy (CEO Designate), I just wanted to highlight some key points for clarification.

Work Packs

These were sent home with all Year 7 and 8 scholars yesterday. We will hold these at TFS Reception until 4pm on Friday 20th March. If you are unable to get to TFS due to self-isolation, please endeavour to arrange for a friend or an extended family member to collect the pack on your behalf. Unfortunately, due to their size, we are unable to post them. The majority of work held within these packs will also be available online later on today.

Scholars who should continue to attend school at Folkestone Academy

As outlined by Mr. Murphy, scholars with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) and who are not self-isolating, will be educated at Folkestone Academy. All TFS staff, who are able to be in school, will be based there from Monday ready to support scholars.

We will be in direct contact tomorrow with the parents and carers of scholars who are considered to be vulnerable, as outlined by the government, to ensure that they are fully aware of the provision on offer for their children.

We are still awaiting guidance from the government as to the definition of key worker in this instance. As soon as this information becomes available, we will send out a form which will need to be completed and returned as soon as possible should you qualify for this provision. I fully understand that this is a key concern for many of you. However, I am sure you can appreciate the necessity for us to work consistently within the guidelines set by the government in order to safeguard members of our community in the most effective manner.

Please be assured that as soon as we are able to, we will share a more cohesive outline of our plans whilst we are based at Folkestone Academy.

All other scholars

All other scholars have been fully briefed on the work that has been set for them, our expectations of them whilst they are out of school and how to access further online learning as necessary. We have created a dedicated area of our website to enable scholars to easily access their Home Learning: <https://www.turnerfreeschool.org/scholars/home-learning/>.

In addition to this, our Pastoral Staff will make routine contact with those scholars who regularly access their support. This will be via email or telephone call to you as their parents and carers.

Medication

If we currently hold medication for your child, it is crucial that you arrange for it to be collected before the end of the school day on Friday 20th March. Similarly, we would ask that you remind your child to check for any lost property. Any medicines or lost property items that are not picked up will not be available after that and will be disposed of.

Arrangements for Friday 20th March

Just a reminder that TFS will finish at 2:05pm tomorrow and that scholars should wear their PE kits to school, as they will be taking part in inter-house sports.

How to contact us

Should you have any queries or concerns over the coming weeks, you will be able to contact us via email in the same way – admin@turnerfreeschool.org and by phone on 01303 842400 via option 3. For any Pastoral concerns, please email pastoral@turnerfreeschool.org or on 07799 733594.

Understandably, at this current time, we do not know how long we will need to operate in this way. We will, however, endeavour to keep you up-to-date with all developments as advice and guidance for schools changes. We would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding in these uncertain times and send our very best wishes throughout the forthcoming weeks.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Yates