

5 January 2021



Dear parent/guardian

We obviously now find ourselves in a very different position to the one we were in yesterday.

To confirm, the school will be closed to all students until the 22nd of February, except for those identified and confirmed yesterday as being invited to the key worker provision.

We will:

- continue to provide a video lesson for every lesson on your child's timetable throughout
- <https://www.sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk/629/covid-19-home-learning>
- provide regular video assemblies
- be available to you and your child for support via email and telephone (we will staff Reception throughout the lockdown)
- contact your child on a regular basis via email
- contact you directly on a weekly basis
- continue to provide safeguarding support if you need it
- continue to make regular payments directly to those who normally receive free school meals
- keep you updated about any changes as and when it is necessary.

Yesterday, the Prime Minister said that the Department for Education were exploring alternative assessments to exams in the summer, but, this morning, it has been announced that those students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 who are due to sit external exams this month are still required to do so. Mr Sharples will be in touch shortly with more details about this for those involved and the special arrangements we are putting in place to help those students prepare for their exams.

In the meantime, given that we do not know what alternative arrangements the Government has in mind for the summer exams, it is essential that all Year 11, Year 12 Transition students and Year 13 students continue to study hard as there may be some assessments/internal exams that they will need to do before the end of the year.

If any of you are struggling to get your child working due to lack of access to the internet or devices that can be used, please let us know as we may be able to help. I will be writing again shortly (probably tomorrow) with some further information about how parents can help the students to learn from home – which I totally understand isn't always easy!

My very best wishes to you all in these worrying times. Stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Tracey Savage  
Headteacher