

Blackburn Central High School Haslingden Road Blackburn BB2 3HJ

T 01254 505 700 E info@bchs.co.uk

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus update - School closure to most students

I would like to wish all members of our school community a very happy new year. It is good to be back in school but it is certainly not the same without the students!

Following the announcement last night from the UK government, I am writing to inform you that school will be closed to almost all children until further notice.

However, school will remain open for the following students:

- Our most vulnerable learners including students with EHCP's and those with a social worker should attend school.
- Students who have one or more parents who is a key worker and who are not able to remain at home are also welcome to attend school.

Children who do not fall into these groups should remain at home with appropriate care.

IMPORTANT – ACTION REQUIRED

If you think your child may fall into one of these categories and you are intending to send your child into school and have not previously informed us, please inform us by emailing the appropriate information to info@bchs.co.uk

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school until further notice.

The government has also announced that they will continue to support children eligible for free school meals, so we will be sending a weekly voucher for eligible families.

Guidance: The continuation of learning

Students who are at home, will be required to follow their usual timetable with teachers providing remote learning resources for every lesson through Google Classroom and regular live learning to support this. We need your support to ensure that students attend every lesson including form time at 8:30am.

The expectation for us at school is that although the building is closed, both staff and students are still continuing to work hard, particularly students in Year 10 and 11 who are due to sit GCSE examinations in the coming weeks. Although the government has announced these exams are being reviewed, we don't know whether students will still be expected to take examinations or be assessed in some other way, and therefore it is essential that Year 11 students continue to prepare for examinations, keeping knowledge fresh in their minds.

Aspire and achieve

Every piece of work students in Year 10 & 11 complete whilst in lockdown could be a crucial piece of evidence to support a judgement on a student's grade at a later date.

As a school, we will continue to ensure families have contact with you regularly via our school text, email, ParentApp and phone call systems. Regular updates will also be posted on our school website at <u>www.bchs.co.uk</u> and via twitter @BCHS_uk.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you well, advise you to strictly follow government guidance and stay safe and healthy. I look forward to welcoming students back into school at the earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Mrs S Hussain Headteacher