



5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the Government announcement yesterday evening, all schools in England have been asked to close from today (Tuesday 5th January) as part of a national lockdown planned in response to a surge in COVID-19 and a new variant in the virus. This will mean that the vast majority of pupils will need to remain at home until further notice is available on when schools will be able to re-open.

We will be providing online learning for all pupils while our school is closed. All pupils will start their learning remotely from today. Students should follow their normal timetable and all work will be set on Google Classroom and a letter with more information will be sent tomorrow by Miss Norman. Our school will remain open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, as was the case during the national lockdown from March to June last year. We will continue to offer free school meals for eligible children during this period while the school is closed, further details will be sent once we have them.

At the moment, there is no clear date for when primary and secondary schools will be able to re-open to pupils, but we will update you as soon as this information becomes available. The Government also confirmed that GCSE and A-level examinations will not go ahead as planned. We will share more information with you on this as it becomes available to us. However they have indicated that vocational exams will go ahead and we have several of these in the coming days and weeks. With each exam we will communicate details to individual students regarding start times and rooming for the exam.

We know this latest announcement will cause disruption for many families and we would like to thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we follow Government guidance. Your support is what got the school through 2020 and it is what will see us through the challenges of this next period. We understand the frustration felt by many students and hope to see them back in school as soon as possible in terms of health and safety. At the end of this letter is a list of support contact details you may find useful.

While the school is closed, we encourage you to keep monitoring the Government's advice – the information can be found on the Government website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus>.

Headteacher: Mr S Palmer

We will continue to keep you updated and if you have any immediate questions please contact the school via head@cedarsupper.co.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Palmer', written in a cursive style.

Steven Palmer

Who to contact for support?

Please contact your year team with any questions or concerns that you may have. In addition please see the useful contact list for additional support.

Cedars Safeguarding

Mrs C Powell cpowell@cedarsupper.co.uk

Text Line: 07860 003918

SSC – Emotional Support

ssc@cedarsupper.co.uk

Year 9

Miss M Levey mlevey@cedarsupper.co.uk

Mr S Livesy slivesey@cedarsupper.co.uk

Mrs C Street cstreet@cedarsupper.co.uk

Year 10

Mrs R Neal rneal@cedarsupper.co.uk

Mrs N Holland nholland@cedarsupper.co.uk

Year 11

Mrs N Dunning ndunning@cedarsupper.co.uk

Miss C Lewis clewis@cedarsupper.co.uk

Sixth Form

Mrs A Calloway acalloway@cedarsupper.co.uk

Mrs H Parkinson hparkinson@cedarsupper.co.uk

USEFUL CONTACTS		
Organisation Support for Contact Details		
Cedars	Text line and Safeguarding	07860 003918 cpowell@cedarsupper.co.uk
Children's Services	Any concern about a young person	0300 300 8585
CHUMS	Emotional well-being and bereavement	01525 863924 www.chums.uk.com
Grief Encounter	Confidential helpline for bereavement support	0808 802 0111 www.griefencounter.org.uk/

Childline	Anything – online counsellors available	0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
HOPELine UK	Prevention of Young Suicide	0800 068 4141 Text: 07786 209697
Young Minds	Anything – parent helpline available	www.youngminds.org.uk/
NSPCC	Advice and Support	0808 800 5000 www.nspcc.org.uk
Tactic	Teenage advice and information centre	01525 373838 tactic@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk www.tactic-centre.co.uk
Anti-bullying Helpline	Bullying	0845 225 5787 or 07734 701221 www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk
BEAT	Eating disorders	0345 634 1414 www.b-eat.co.uk
Brook	Sexual health	Text: 01234 761090 www.brook.org.uk
Carers in Beds	Young carers	0300 111 1919 www.carersinbeds.org.uk
Aquarius	Drugs information, advice and counselling	01234 344911 www.talktofrank.com
Domestic Violence Helpline	24 hour Helpline for those suffering from or witnessing Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247 www.Bedsdv.org.uk
Kooth	Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people	www.Kooth.com
Chat Health	Text health related questions you might have including mental health, drugs, relationships, healthy eating and much more.	07507 331450

