



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you had a good Easter break, although for many it may not seem to be much of a difference to normal life at present.

As confirmed by the government last night, we now enter a further 3-week lockdown period, therefore we will be continuing with the process put in place before the Easter break; to reiterate school is open only for students of key workers, students with education health care plans and any other student deemed by the school or external agencies to be appropriate (on a case by case basis).

For those who are in school it will be academic work as normal and work will continue to be set for others as before the holidays.

Regarding free school meals, the system introduced by the government (Edenred) has many issues and continues to be a concern of national interest commented on in the press; so we will be issuing vouchers via Wonde again for the coming week. At present this situation remains out of our hands, the Confederation of Schools Trust (which includes Ormiston) are in daily contact with the Department of Education as this situation has been going on for some weeks now. Obviously we understand the importance of these vouchers to our families entitled to free school meals and it is extremely disappointing (to put it as mildly and politely as I possibly can) so you can rest assured that it will be followed up in the strongest manner possible on our return if not before.

As time goes on it is easy to become complacent yet it is clear from quite recent events that this is a virus which affects all groups of people and is not to be taken lightly.

We will let you know if there is any further update regarding developments on a full school re-opening; although I suspect this will not be any time soon.

Stay safe and have a good weekend.

Mr Jim Nixon
Principal