



# ELLESMERE PORT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*'I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full'* John 10.10

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for the care and hard work you are providing for our school community and Ellesmere Port at this difficult time.

The government has just announced that all schools will close from **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**.

I would like to thank the whole school staff who have worked incredibly hard to continue to meet the needs of our students and parents.

In order to support our school community we have planned the following:

## **E-Learning**

To facilitate remote learning, students will be able to use an online platform, on which teachers will provide resources / handouts, deliver their lessons by video link if able to do so, and where students can complete assignments. This platform is accessible via the web address <https://teams.office.com>, or via a link (**'Online Classes'**) which we have created on the **'Students'** menu on the home page of the school website (<https://epchs.co.uk/>).

**'Online Classes' are now near completion in the set up phase. We will be emailing a PowerPoint presentation for parents and students to support easy access. This information will also be on our website. Students have been reminded of their email addresses and log in details this week.**

In addition to this, there are links to platforms, such as **Show My Homework, Hegarty Maths, Google Classroom** and **Seneca**. Here, staff can set additional work for students to complete in order to support their learning.

**Please contact the following members of the Senior Leadership Team if you require further information:**

**Mr Jones: Show my homework**                      **C.Jones@epchs.co.uk**  
**Mrs Hughes: Student email addresses**      **L.Hughes@epchs.co.uk**

## **Year 8 Options**

To support option choices, all information is now in a **Year 8 Options** Class button in the **'Parents'** section on the website.

**If you require further assistance with options, please contact Mr Laing on T.Laing@epchs.co.uk**

## **Key Workers / Students with Educational Healthcare Plans / Vulnerable Students**

Thank you for the response to the online survey. We have analysed this today and made the decision we must try to support these parents and guardians as best we can. **We will be keeping the school open for students of key workers, vulnerable students who have social workers, or education healthcare plans.** Further guidance will be sent in the next two days.

**Please contact the following members if you require further information:**

<b>Mrs Hughes: Key Workers</b>	<a href="mailto:L.Hughes@epchs.co.uk">L.Hughes@epchs.co.uk</a>
<b>Mrs Jones: Social Workers</b>	<a href="mailto:J.Jones@epchs.co.uk">J.Jones@epchs.co.uk</a>
<b>Mrs Marsland: Educational Healthcare Plans</b>	<a href="mailto:Vicky.Marsland2@epchs.co.uk">Vicky.Marsland2@epchs.co.uk</a>

## **Free School Meals**

The government will be providing vouchers for free school meals. Further guidance will be sent to parents in the next few days (**National Voucher System**).

**If you require further assistance, please contact Mr Jones on [Carl.Jones@epchs.co.uk](mailto:Carl.Jones@epchs.co.uk)**

## **Examinations Summer 2020**

The Prime Minister has announced there will be no examinations taking place in summer. Further guidance will be sent as we receive it.

## **Sixth Form Admissions 2020**

To support options choices all information will be in the '**Parents**' area of our website in a **Sixth Form admissions** button.

**Further guidance will be sent by Mrs Henderson who can be contacted at [L.Henderson@epchs.co.uk](mailto:L.Henderson@epchs.co.uk) if you require further assistance.**

## **Year 7 Intake September 2020**

To support our new students and parents throughout the transition process, there will be a **transition 2020** button in the '**Parents**' area on the website and Mrs Hughes will be coordinating this.

**If you require further assistance, please contact Mrs Hughes on [L.Hughes@epchs.co.uk](mailto:L.Hughes@epchs.co.uk)**

## **Chaplaincy**

To support our community our Chaplains are setting up a **chaplaincy area** on our website.

**If you require further assistance, please contact Mrs Barker on [PBA@email.epchs.co.uk](mailto:PBA@email.epchs.co.uk) or Mr Hunt on [AHN@email.epchs.co.uk](mailto:AHN@email.epchs.co.uk)**

## **Advice to the general public in relation to Covid-19**

The following advice is for students of key workers who may attend school:

**If your child is well they should attend school.**

**However, if they present with any symptoms of;**

- **A high temperature and/or**
- **A new continuous cough**

**Then they should remain at home in isolation for 14 days.**

**In addition, anyone in the same household should also self-isolate for 14 days regardless of whether they have symptoms themselves.**

**Moreover, any child who presents these symptoms at school will be isolated and parents/guardians will be called immediately to collect them.**

We will still follow the advice on general hygiene and measures we can take to limit and delay the virus which are to:

1. wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds,
2. always wash your hands when you get home or into work,
3. use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available,
4. cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze,
5. put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards,
6. try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell,
7. not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

As a school we are in regular communication with Public Health England and Department for Education over measures which we as a school can take in response to the current situation.

These are unprecedented circumstances and advice and guidance will, from a range of agencies, be evolving and we will keep you updated regularly. We will do everything to support you and your families over the coming months.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Vile  
**Headteacher**