



19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your support over the last week, I am sure you are all processing the implications of yesterday's announcement as much as we are. I wanted to write to you as early as possible to ensure you are well informed of our preparations for the end of the week and the week ahead. It is with a heavy heart that I write these words and I do not underestimate the significance of what we and you are being asked to do.

Today (**Thursday**) will be the last day in school for **ALL** students. Unfortunately, we simply cannot staff the school safely tomorrow and will, therefore, be closing earlier than directed.

Key Worker and vulnerable children provision

Given the Government directive that schools will now close for an unspecified period we will use opportunities today to give explicit instructions to students on how to approach their home learning and to answer any questions they may have. Furthermore, schools are being asked to consider options to look after "Key Worker" & vulnerable children.

Schools have yet to be provided with a definitive list of 'Key Workers'. We are hoping to receive this imminently. All parents/carers will receive a communication later today or tomorrow to confirm if they are a key worker (with details around your current employment status) and, if so, to confirm whether you will be sending your child to school in the coming weeks. We will then be able to put staffing resources in place to accommodate this group of students in line with the Government's request. However, I need to make you aware that it is unlikely that this provision will commence until at least Wednesday of next week. Your child will be expected to be in full school uniform, remain in school all day unless they become unwell or you arrive to collect them. For these children we will have supervised access to study rooms and the library, but we do not have the staffing capacity to teach them in classes. This will all be confirmed in writing to eligible parents/carers.

Year 11 and Year 13 Examinations

The Government announcements around exams has caused significant anxiety and I have seen Year 11 and Year 13 this morning to try to reassure them of our support. Year 11 and Year 13 parents/carers will receive a further communication around this. As soon as we have further information about how your GCSEs and A Levels are going to be determined we will of course share it with you.

FSM

We are awaiting further clarification as to how we will administer Free School Meals in the future. We will communicate this to those families directly.

At the moment, I am unable to provide you with concrete answers to many of the questions you have – this may change as the day unfolds. However, I wanted to outline our plans for the next two

Principal: Mr Mark Avoth

The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS | Tel. 01202 528554 | admin@thebourneacademy.com

www.thebourneacademy.com |  @BourneAcademy

days and next week as best we can. We will be sharing these with students during the course of the day today.

To clarify:

Today (Thursday) – Year 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13 in school. Year 9 remain at home

Tomorrow (Friday) – Closed for ALL students

Next Week – Further communication will be forthcoming regarding Key Worker & Vulnerable children provision

I will likely write again this evening to update you further. Rest assured we will continue to do everything we can to provide a continuity of education and, more importantly, to continue to fulfil our duty of care to your children to the very best of our ability in these exceptional circumstances.

Kind regards

**Mr M Avoth
Principal**

Principal: Mr Mark Avoth

The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS Tel. 01202 528554

www.thebourneacademy.com admin@thebourneacademy.com

The Bourne Academy is a charitable company registered in England under Company no. 07148158

Registered office: Hadow Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 5HS