



Oxford House School

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19 March 2020

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, the Government has yesterday announced the closure of all schools in England from the end of Friday 20 March due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Our school premises will continue as normal today and tomorrow. The Easter term will still end on 3rd April and we are planning on the Summer term commencing as previously advised on 22 April, whether physically at school or virtually.

We are currently exploring the means by which we can offer supervised care for the children of key workers. Please let us know via email on info@oxfordhouseschool.net by tomorrow noon Friday 20 March if you feel you may fall into this category and are likely to require this service. We will confirm details shortly.

I appreciate this news is unsettling but want to reassure you of the steps we are taking to provide support for our students and parents during the closure. As you know, we've been working closely with our Cognita colleagues in Asia, where some countries have had mandatory school closures for many weeks and also more recently in Spain and Switzerland. Our plan for Oxford House School is informed by the practice they've put in place and we are confident we have an effective strategy for our children to continue learning. We have recently refreshed the digital technology in our school and conducted training in its use which means our teaching staff are well equipped to make the transition to digital learning for your child.

If we are to remain closed after the Easter break, pupils will move to the online learning programme. Specific details about this will be communicated during the Easter break. Clearly this will be a new way of working and learning for us all and we expect to adapt the programme as we go.

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the differences between remote and online learning.

Remote learning is deployed for up to two weeks due to a school closure through either a hard copy or digitally accessible work which can be printed and completed. The home learning tasks allow pupils to access key areas of learning for short periods of time.

Online learning commences if the school is closed for longer than two weeks and provides a continued education and a more in-depth programme of learning. There will be overviews for topics via PowerPoint presentations, independent learning, interactive learning and some collective engagement sessions with pupils creating a virtual classroom using Microsoft Teams. Teachers' school email addresses will be shared and they will be contactable either directly or through the school office. We will continue to communicate closely with you throughout the closure and will update as soon as we have more information.

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Thank you in advance for your support at this challenging time. Our teachers have been preparing well for the possibility of a closure. All our efforts are concentrated on two priorities: maintaining the wellbeing of our children and staff and ensuring the continuity of their education in the days or weeks to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Seyshon'.

Mrs S Leyshon