

Schoolcomms: 17.03.20

Dear Parent/Carer,

In light of the Prime Minister's announcement of the introduction of significant 'social distancing' and self-isolation measures, we have taken the decision today to introduce additional preventative measures at Ilkley Grammar School in order to help protect our students and staff, whilst schools are to remain open.

The over-riding principle that we have agreed upon is that wherever possible, we will cease activities that would bring either staff and / or students into contact with anyone outside our immediate student and staff IGS school community. Therefore, with immediate effect, the following precautions will apply and will remain in place for as long as is necessary:

- Any Parents' Evenings scheduled will be postponed until later in the year. This includes the Year 10 Parents' Evening which was due to take place next Tuesday 24th March
- Any scheduled PIE events such as the Year 11 English Revision Evening which was due to take place today will be postponed until further notice.
- Visits to the school by both members of the public and parents will be strictly by invite only. Wherever possible, all 'external' meetings, including those with parents, will now take place over the phone
- All domestic trips, activities and evening events planned for the remainder of this half term which involve our students coming into contact with students from other schools or members of the public will be cancelled or postponed
- Sports Fixtures against other schools will be postponed until after Easter at the earliest
- After school extra-curricular sporting activities will be postponed until further notice
- Any school productions or performances which involve wider audiences will be postponed until later in the year (this does not affect in-school examinations)
- After school detentions are cancelled until further notice
- PE swimming lessons have been cancelled until further notice

The measures outlined above have been taken to support the delay of the spread of the virus within our school community and we hope you support us with these decisions.

With regards to other in-school activities such as lunch and breaktime routines, these will continue as normal as part of our usual daily routine. We will only hold assemblies if we need to give important messages to students face to face, which will include a series of special assemblies tomorrow over the course of the day to enable us to give out some key, consistent messages to students about the school's actions, including our plans for remote learning. N.B. we are keen to retain as much normality for students as possible, as we understand this is obviously a worrying time for us all.

We continue to follow all good hygiene practices and ask that all staff, students and parents follow the updated Government guidance in relation to self-isolation which is that **people should stay at home if they, or anyone in their household, has either a high temperature or a "new and continuous cough"**. Please refer to the latest [government](#) / [NHS](#) guidance for advice.

We would like to again thank you all for your continued support during this unprecedented time.

Ilkley Grammar School

