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THREE DAY CLOSURE OF HESTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR YEARS 7 – 10

Wednesday 18th March 2020 – Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The impact of the Coronavirus is continuing to have far reaching effects upon our community. Due to the advice changing on a daily basis, we feel that it is important to keep you updated on how Heston Community School is responding to the events. Throughout these difficult times we will always follow the latest guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education. It is important to remember that our primary goal is to keep our students and wider community safe and provide the highest quality of education.

The updated guidance can be found with the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19#contents>

Whilst the advice is for schools to remain open, Heston is currently experiencing high levels of teacher absence. Staff training, trips and visits have all been cancelled to ensure that the impact on student learning is minimised. However, we have arrived at the point where it is no longer possible to cover classes safely and as more families begin to self-isolate, this is likely to further increase pressure on the School.

Heston Community School will therefore be implementing a partial closure, where only students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will come into School. Our focus will be on preparing students for the upcoming examinations.

Teachers of Years 7 - 10 will set work for students via Show My Homework. Whilst we are making this decision for the next three days only, there is a possibility that this could be for a prolonged period. We encourage parents to support their children in maintaining their education through engaging with the set work, and checking that it is completed.

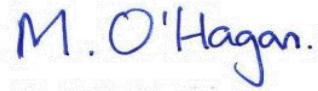
We will be writing to all parents via our website with any new updates and ask for your support during this difficult time. To minimise disruption to your child's education, we expect your child to complete a minimum of five hours of work per day. In the event that this three day closure becomes extended, we will provide further guidance.

 **Specialist Visual Arts Academy**

Students in Years 7 – 10, who are eligible for Free School Meals, are invited to come to the School Canteen for lunch between 12:20 and 13:00, unless they are self-isolating.

Thank you for your support and we send our best wishes to your family.

Yours faithfully



Mike O'Hagan
Deputy Headteacher