



# Icknield Community College

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19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will all be aware, as a result of the Government announcement last night, we will be closing (for most students tomorrow) for the foreseeable future.

In an extraordinary assembly this morning, I spoke with all of our Year 11 students about the announcement that was also made about cancelling exams. Whilst we heard last night that exams would be cancelled for May/June, there was still some conjecture about whether they would be taken at another time.

At 3.29pm today, we received an email from the Department for Education clarifying that there won't be any exams and that, tomorrow, they "will provide greater clarity on how students and young people will be awarded the examination results that they deserve".

I explained to Year 11, this morning, that we might need to close partially tomorrow as a result of staff self-isolating, and that they may well not be in. That is indeed now the case. Given we now know that they will no longer be studying for exams, and that they are the oldest students in the school (which should have the least impact on childcare for you, as parents), they do not need to come in to school tomorrow. I will communicate this information via the Oxfordshire County Council website, also, as well as through Radio Stations.

We are very well aware that school closure may well affect our normal "leaving" activities for our Year 11 students including their leaving day and prom. This is in the forefront of our minds and we will be looking to find solutions, if we can, with our students moving forwards.

As a result of school closure, Year 9 immunisations will no longer take place on Monday. We will look to find a solution to this, too. Equally, we have been told that Year 10 Work Experience will no longer take place. Mrs Richardson has written a letter to all employers. Please find attached a letter that she has written to Year 10 Parents, too.

Once we have been given clarity from the Cabinet Office around the definition for "key workers", which hasn't come through as I write this letter at 5.24pm, we will be in touch with you as parents so that we can plan for the students who may come to school next week.

Thank you for your patience at this incredibly challenging time.

With best wishes.

Mat Hunter  
Headteacher