



# Whalley Range 11-18 High School

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Whalley Range 11-18 High School, Wilbraham Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8GW

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20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the latest advice and guidance that the government issued on Wednesday 18th March 2020, Whalley Range 11-18 High School will close to all but the children of key workers and vulnerable students from 3.00 pm on Friday 20th March 2020.

In order to support the government's aim to keep key workers on the frontline of tackling the pandemic, schools have been instructed to offer a level of service to the children of key workers and 'vulnerable students'. Government advice is that if children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. This provision is **only** for those who absolutely need to attend. If your daughter is already self-isolating due to a medical condition or symptoms of the virus, she should continue to do so.

The Department for Education has produced a list of key workers which includes the following occupations: -

1. Health and social care
2. Education and childcare
3. Key public services
4. Local and national government
5. Food and other necessary goods
6. Public safety and national security
7. Transport
8. Utilities, communication and financial services.

For a more detailed description of the list of key workers, please follow this link: - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The latest guidance for 'vulnerable children' suggests that these are classified as:

1. Students with an Education, Health and Care Plan
2. Students with an assigned social worker

If you meet the above criteria please email [keyworker@wrhs1118.co.uk](mailto:keyworker@wrhs1118.co.uk) by 12.00 pm on Friday 20th March 2020 to inform us if you would like your daughter to continue attending school from Monday 23rd March 2020. Please include in your email:-

- Your daughter's name, year group and form
- Your address and phone number (we will call you to confirm the provision)
- The details of both parents/carers' job and place of work
- The days that you or both of you work.

The school will contact all students and families who we feel meet any other criteria and for who the offer of provision will be made. We are fully committed to being as supportive as possible to our families, and we also need to ensure that we are able to safely supervise any students in school.

a member of the **EDUCATION and LEADERSHIP** Trust

At this time, we expect the school to remain closed at least until Easter and possibly beyond depending on what new advice we receive from the government and Public Health England. We will keep you informed as and when we find out more and as and when the situation changes. Communication will be made via email and the school website and if necessary by text message.

During this period of time, students should remain at home and avoid gathering in large groups.

The school has designed a Pastoral Plan to ensure that all students are safeguarded during this time. The implementation of the plan will include school staff contacting some parents by telephone during the period of closure.

### School work

Whilst absent from school your daughter should continue her learning by logging on to websites via the school's Virtual Learning Environment (FROG). There are links to FROG and all subjects on our school website in order that your daughter can continue to follow her school timetable. All students have had a "How To" guide for access to all of the resources emailed to their school email account. Please encourage your daughter to read as many books as possible while she is off school.

Throughout the period of school closure:

- Keep your children indoors so that they are supervised, safe and can engage with the remote learning/learning packs that have been provided
- Promote good hygiene by encouraging your children to wash their hands more regularly and for at least twenty seconds
- Follow the national guidance if you or your family develop symptoms of the virus, and particularly if you or your family are included in the government's groups of vulnerable people
- Keep checking the school website and your email for updates.

Thank you for your support and understanding in this matter. I would also like to thank all of our students who have behaved responsibly and calmly throughout what has undoubtedly been and continues to be a period of heightened anxiety and uncertainty. Finally, I must place on record to all parents/carers my thanks to our dedicated staff who have continued to provide an outstanding educational experience to our students in these challenging times.

Yours faithfully



Mrs E Hole  
Academy Headteacher