



RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr M. McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

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Dear Parent/Carer

As I write this letter, we are busy trying to set up and finalise online learning systems and to prepare our young people for this period of school closure. I have had assemblies with all of them in the last two days and advised strongly that they all maintain some sort of schedule involving their school work, reading, general revision, some physical activity as well as using some of the time to be helpful at home and in their local community if it is safe to do so. I have emphasised that school closure is meant to help slow the spread of the virus so they should be observing the advice relating to social-distancing as laid out by the government. As stated in previous letters, these times are unprecedented and I want to assure you that the staff will endeavour to provide as good a service as we possibly can in terms of work set and feedback to the students in a timely manner. However, I have also made it clear that this cannot be completely guaranteed as we move forward. Some of my colleagues may fall ill, in which case, their priority will be to get themselves better and their contact with your child may suffer as a result. I appreciate your understanding in this matter and I have been humbled by the many, many messages of support, encouragement and gratitude that I have received from across the parental body for the work we are trying to manage.

Key Workers

As per my letter yesterday, please email frontline@range.sefton.sch.uk if you fall into the key worker category and if you wish to avail of a place. A skeleton timetable is being finalised to provide a limited service in school for the children of key workers. Please be advised that this can only be offered to parents who fall into these important categories. It should also be noted that there is no compulsion to send your child to school even if you are a key worker. Government advice states:

Many parents working in these critical sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

This also goes for older students, if they are able to look after themselves, then they should do so rather than come into school. No child will be at an educational advantage if they are in school. As we are operating with a limited staff, the students in school will essentially be doing what the children at home have been advised to do - the work that has been set online and via ClassCharts with some other limited activities.

We are making contact with all key worker families today. The students coming in should arrive at 8.45am in their uniform (they should also bring their PE kit), they will then be directed where to go. A limited lunch service will be available and the normal school rules around mobile phone usage etc... will remain in place. School will finish at 3.30pm and unfortunately there will be no school bus service operational. If you have any questions about this, please get in touch via the school office.

On a personal note, I hadn't quite realised how many of our parents and carers are staff in the NHS or in the emergency services. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank you and everyone in the 'key worker' categories who are doing their utmost to help fight this nasty disease and to keep us all safe. Good luck with all of your work in the coming weeks and months.

As a school, we will continue to communicate important news and information as and when it becomes available via ParentMail and the school website. In the meantime, I wish all of our students and you, their families, well at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Mike McGarry
Headteacher