



19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Update from Aurora following yesterday's announcement re School Closures

All Aurora schools are currently open at present although some schools have had to reduce access for some year groups for the remainder of the week due to staff absence.

In light of the government's announcements yesterday, we are currently planning how we can provide education in school for the foreseeable future for children of 'Key Workers' and some others, including over the Easter break, whilst providing home learning resources for all other learners. I have called a meeting for all of our Headteachers this afternoon (Thursday 19th March) to ensure that we can plan together.

We are waiting for a definitive list of Key Worker roles from the government so that we can work out which learners to expect in our schools. Alongside this we are working on plans to be able to provide lunches for the duration of the closures for learners who are entitled to free school meals.

There will no longer be any primary SAT tests this year and our thoughts also go out to Aurora's learners in Year 11 at The Gatwick School, who will not now be able to sit the GCSE exams towards which they have been working so hard. The Education Secretary has promised to provide us with more detail about how grades will be awarded and I shall include that in my update to you all tomorrow.

These are extraordinary and very challenging times for everyone, including all of our leaders and staff. Thank you for your continued support for your child, your school and for Aurora. Please continue to support us as we endeavour to do whatever we are able to support you and your child.

I shall provide a further update to you all tomorrow (Friday 20th March) in addition to any other communications that you receive from your school about logistics at a local level.

Please continue to look after yourselves and to follow all the advice re keeping you and your families safe.

With my very best wishes

Tim McCarthy CEO, Aurora Academies Trust

