




HOLY ROOD RC HIGH SCHOOL

Duddingston Road West
EDINBURGH
EH15 3ST

Tel No: 0131 661 5871

www.holyrood.edin.sch.uk

 Follow us @HolyRoodRCHigh
Head Teacher: Joan M Daly

20 March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

As you will be aware, the Scottish Government has announced that all schools will close for all pupils from today. The Deputy First Minister announced yesterday that the SQA 2020 Examination Diet will no longer take place. I wish to outline the arrangements we have put in place to support your child at this time.

Firstly, I wish to recognise the outstanding job the staff have done this week in the unprecedented situation we have found ourselves in. I give tribute to them for their dedication, commitment, generosity and kindness. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that everything is in place for our pupils. I am no doubt that despite the challenges that lie ahead, your child is well placed to engage in a new style of learning in the weeks to come as we navigate through this period of uncertainty.

Below is a summary of the practical arrangements we have put in place to allow your child to continue with their learning at home during school closure.

Home Learning

As you are aware in order to support pupils to continue with their learning at home, we have provided an “**Online Learning Guide**” which is linked to our school website <https://www.holyroodrchighschool.co.uk/>. In this guide, pupils will find information regarding learning platforms and parents/carers can also gain an understanding of how pupils can access subject resources. Pupils have been reminded how to access Office365 by entering Login: number@ea.edin.sch.uk, the link is www.tinyurl.com/edi365

Resources

Appropriate learning resources have been made available to pupils. This includes paper copies of notes, revision booklets and any textbooks required. Additional stationery has been given out. Pupils have been asked to empty their lockers and take home necessary jotters and notes from school at the end of today.

SQA Examinations

The 2020 SQA Examinations will not take place this year. I understand that this will be hugely disappointing for many pupils and also may cause some anxiety. The SQA has reassured us that certification will be based on estimated grades, teacher professional judgement and evidence of prior attainment. All pupils are advised to sign up to MySQA as a direct way to receive exam results via text and/or e-mail.

Children in receipt of Free School Meals/ Children of Key Workers

Over the next week City of Edinburgh Council will refine arrangements which may be put in place for pupils who are entitled to receive a free school meal, children whose parents are key workers and possibly others. This is likely to begin on 30/03/20. I will be in contact as soon as I have more information.

School Counsellor

Miriam McHardy (our School Counsellor) is able to conduct phone appointments for pupils on Mondays and Thursdays during school closure. If you wish to refer your child for counselling, please contact the Year Head in the first instance and we will endeavour to put this additional support in place (if resources permit).

SDS Careers Adviser

Due to the closure of the school, our Careers Adviser, Karla Hart, is unable to deliver career services face to face, but is able to help via email and phone. Your child can contact Karla for career information, advice and guidance at (karla.hart@sds.co.uk) or visit www.myworldofwork.co.uk .

Au revoir S6

I wish to conclude this letter by paying tribute to our exceptional S6 pupils who will spend their final day in Holy Rood today. It is regretful that they will not have the opportunity to celebrate this occasion in school today with pupils' families in the usual Holy Rood tradition. We would hope to mark their time with us in a celebratory fashion at some point in the coming months. I wish to share with you how proud I am of the mature young adults our S6 have become. I wish all S6 pupils every success as they move onto the next stage of their learning or to employment. I very much hope they remain in touch. (Please note S6 pupils who are awaiting university offers should refer to the UCAS website for guidance and check emails regularly).

Finally, in order to remain in close contact with parents and carers, we would ask that you please follow our school twitter feed for regular updates @HolyRoodRCHigh. You can keep up to date with online learning resources via our website. If you have a general enquiry, send an e-mail to admin@holyrood.edin.sch.uk

Please contact your child's Year Head if you have any questions during school closure.

S1 – Mr Kiernan
S2 – Mr Lindsay
S3 – Mr Campbell
S4 – Mr Scott
S5/6 Mrs McIntosh

You, your families and loved ones will remain very much in my thoughts and prayers until we return to school, stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Joan Daly
HEAD TEACHER