



The Arnewood School

11-19 Academy

Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

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Our ref: NP.20.03.37

19 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: COVID 19 School Closure - Arnewood Virtual School

At the direction of the government the school will be closing at 3pm on Friday 20th March 2020. This is to comply with the national strategy to delay the spread of the current coronavirus pandemic. The school site will remain closed until further notice. The school community should remain separated and students should not meet together.

To mitigate the impact on students' education we have made contingency plans to operate remote online learning using the school's virtual learning environment called Firefly. The Arnewood Virtual School will operate between 9 a.m. - midday, and 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. daily, during term-time. Staff will be working remotely between these hours setting working, answering students' questions, and marking work to offer feedback. While this arrangement is viable in the immediate short-term, please understand, I cannot anticipate how the school's workforce will be affected by the virus; please be mindful that teachers will also be caring for themselves and family too.

Students have already been issued with a username and login details for Firefly. The content on Firefly is set by Arnewood teachers for specific groups and or individual students. While at home, student's safe use of the internet will need to be the responsibility of parents / carers. Technical support and advice on eSafety is available by email which should be addressed to ITHelpdesk@arnewood.hants.sch.uk.

During the period of school closure regular updates will be provided at www.arnewood.hants.sch.uk/covid-19. If you are employed as an NHS worker, police officer, delivery driver, and without child care, please can you email the school (enquiries@arnewood.hants.sch.uk) by 0900 Friday 20th March 2020 so we can support you.

We have made arrangements to work with a food bank to provide supplies for children on free school meals. Further communication will be sent to these families shortly.

The next few weeks will be potentially challenging for us all. I hope you and your family remain safe and well during this difficult period.

Yours faithfully

N. M. Pressnell

N. Pressnell
Headteacher

