Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I am now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs (e.g., EHCP).

Children whose parents are key workers are entitled to attend school if there is not someone to care for the child during the day. This means that if there are two adults in the house and only one is a key worker, that child should not attend school. The reasons for the school closures are to minimise social contact in order to contain the spread of the virus in our communities. Brentside will remain open for students in identified groups, where there are no alternative options for childcare.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information regarding who are defined as key workers or children with certain needs. We will contact you again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to. In the meantime it would help us if you could let us know if you think you or your child may fall into one of these categories. Please inform up by emailing the school info@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk or call the school office to inform us of your occupations(s), work contact details and your child’s name and tutor group.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by communicating with you via email and our website.
Supporting our students’ learning

Your child’s learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn while they are away from school. Specifically, we will do this by:

› Setting classwork using Showmyhomework (smhw) where work for timetabled lessons will be published on the morning of each day that a lesson would have taken place.
› Providing photocopied packs of work for students who may not have access to the internet.
› Ensuring that teachers are available to answer students’ questions regarding work set through the smhw website or our school email system.

Please email info@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk with the subject heading smhw if your child is having difficulties logging in to smhw as this is their main way of communicating with their teachers.

Students entitled to Free School Meals

The government has announced that there will be support provided for students entitled to free school meals. We will contact you with further details once we have them.

Thank you for your continued support. We will update you with further information as the situation develops.

Yours sincerely,

Arwel Jones