



WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL  
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Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**PARTIAL SCHOOL CLOSURE FOR YEAR 10 AND SUSPENSION OF LESSONS FOR YEAR 12**

I write further to the messages sent to parents and carers of Year 10 and Year 12 today and my letter of yesterday.

The impact the new Government guidance on self-isolation has made it increasingly difficult to maintain a full school service. We now have significant staff shortages and we cannot operate as normal.

Our plan, until informed otherwise by Government, is to try and maintain a full programme of teaching for Years 11 and 13. We aim to keep disruption to a minimum for students in these classes for as long as possible as they are taking public examinations this year. However, with the current and future predicted staffing levels partial closure of the school for other year groups will be necessary. We will do our best to keep this to a minimum, but we have a duty to ensure that we have sufficient staffing to keep the site safe for students and staff.

In the first instance, we have made the decision to **close the school to Year 10 from tomorrow, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** and to suspend lessons for Year 12 tomorrow. All other year groups should attend school as normal although there will be some changes to their timetable.

Although **Year 12** students will not have lessons tomorrow, they are encouraged to attend school to complete the work set by teachers. They can study in the William Ellis Library or the Sixth Form Study Centre.

**Year 10 students on Free School Meals** are welcome to come to school for lunch. They should sign into school by 1.25 for lunch. We will also have **supervised study facilities** in school for some Year 10 students. We ask that parents/carers contact the school if they would like their son to make use of this, please email Mr Lane on: lane@williamellis.camden.sch.uk.

**Boys coming to study and/or for lunch need to attend in school uniform.**

Year 10 students will have work set on Teams (Microsoft Office 365). All parents should have received a copy of their son's or daughter's login details earlier today and some guidance on the use of Teams.

Our website ([www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk](http://www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk)) will remain the main conduit for information about the school's position in response to COVID-19. We will continue to update the website as we receive updated guidance from the Government, Public Health England and Camden. **You may be interested to view the presentation used in an extended tutorial this afternoon for all students, it gives a summary of our current understanding of the coronavirus and how best to protect yourself and others.**

My very best wishes at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Sam White

Headteacher