

## St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699 Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

Thursday 19 March 2020

Government's announcement of school closure from Friday 20 March 2020

Dear Families,

I am writing to you with reference to last night's announcement by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Education that schools are to postpone education onsite at the end of the day tomorrow, Friday 20th March 2020. We will remain closed until further notice except for children of key workers and vulnerable children, as part of the country's ongoing response to the coronavirus pandemic. Further information on who these key workers are and what the provision will look like will be communicated to you later today or tomorrow.

I am sorry that I am having to write to you with news of this kind, we are in unprecedented times and will need to follow all the guidance from the government to ensure the health, safety and well being of everyone.

At this stage, the government has said that exams will not be taking place this year (GCSE and A-Level). I have spoken to the students to impress upon them that their hard work and studies over the past few years have not been in vain and, during the school closure period, encourage them to continue to study in preparation for Further and Higher Education.

The DfE will be issuing further guidance to schools on these matters later today and tomorrow so I will update you accordingly.

The staff at St Martin's remain totally committed to our students and families and we will continue to provide pastoral support, even if this is done remotely.

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid. Do not be discouraged" Deuteronomy 31:8

**Blessings** 

**Beverley Stanislaus** 

Headteacher

