

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Under the current guidance from Government, which requires individuals and their families with a persistent cough and/or high temperature to self-isolate, a high proportion of our staff are now not able to work. Given the issues in finding even short-term cover, this means that we cannot provide enough teaching and support staff to cover our classes and meet the required health and safety pupil to staff ratios.

Having sought advice from the Local Authority and from up-to-date information on the Department for Education website, we have made the decision to *partially* close the school for an expected period of 14 days (18.3.20 – 31.3.20) in line with the government's advice on isolation periods for those showing symptoms.

I appreciate this will have a significant impact on you and your children but I hope you will understand that we are acting on the advice provided by health authorities, and purely in the interests of our pupils, staff and families.

Our school will operate as normally as possible for the students who remain with us, with continued vigilance around hygiene and symptoms of ill-health.

We will of course fully re-open the school once we have sufficient staff available to do so. I hope to be able to welcome you all back to school as soon as possible.

For classes where our current staffing is not adequate to ensure the safety of students, we are therefore asking children to stay at home. The classes that will not run from tomorrow are:

**Titanium Class**

**Venus Class**

**The Retreat Room 2**

***If you child is in one of those classes, please keep them at home from tomorrow. Work will be provided during this period. Please see Class Dojo for how to access work via Google Classroom. Your child's attendance record will be not be affected.***

Should you have any further questions or queries, I would like to signpost you to the council's website where you can find links to all the latest NHS and government information and guidelines: [www.southglos.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/coronavirus).

If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of your child in this time, please contact me immediately.

Thank you for your continued support at this unprecedented time.

Dominic Broad, Headteacher

Stephen Miles, DCEO SGSAT