



20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Can I begin by thanking you all for your tremendous support over the last few days. We are experiencing a set of circumstances like no other in our experience. The pupils have asked us lots of questions and shared worries with us, which I hope we have answered and provided reassurance to. Please do bear this in mind over the coming days when you spend time with them.

The government advice remains the same: to try and **keep your child at home** so that the spread of the virus is halted. This will help to keep them safe, your families safe and our communities safe. **We must do more now to safeguard our futures.** Therefore, **if children can stay safely at home, they should to limit the chance of the virus spreading. This is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home**, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. Thank you to you all for respecting this message. **We will only allow pupils on site that have been invited by email today. Please do not send your child if you have not received one of these emails.**

Many of you have shared concerns with us regarding the residential trips due to take place to Osmington, Germany and London. We are working with the providers to attempt to reschedule these dates once this crisis is over. For your reassurance, they **WILL NOT** be running as planned in the next few months. I hope that this decision means there is one less thing for you to worry about. Please keep an eye on our website for updates in the coming weeks.

Whilst school is closed, please do continue to contact us in the usual manner by phone and email. There will be a skeleton team available, but we aim to respond as soon as possible. For any safeguarding concerns we have set up a new email [safeguarding@fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk) which will be monitored by our safeguarding team. Any concerns out of school hours can be shared as usual on Somerset Direct.

I hope that despite the uncertainty we are all experiencing, you are able to stay safe and healthy and enjoy time together as a family in the approaching days and weeks.

My very best wishes

Yours sincerely

Stefan McHale  
Headteacher



Fairlands Middle School

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Headteacher: Stefan McHale  
Deputy Headteachers: Helen Heffernan and Kate Persaud  
Associate Leaders: Robert Cooling and Matthew Vincent SENDCo

**Safeguarding Children is everyone's responsibility.**

If you are worried about any child please make an appointment to see either Helen Heffernan, Designated Safeguarding Lead or Robert Cooling, Felicity Grant, Sally Virgin, Designated Safeguarding Deputies  
Alternatively, you can phone NPSCC: 0808 800 5000 Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224