



20 March 2020

Dear Parent

MCS doors are partially and temporarily closing to the majority of our students during this period of National Emergency. Learning will continue for the time-being through our digital portals. Please refer to the website daily for up-dates and information.

At school, from Monday 23 March, we will have a ‘skeleton’ staff in operation to make sure we can co-ordinate support for the Local Authority and the Welsh Government. You will be aware schools have been asked to take on new roles to support our communities. Soon we will be able to publish their plans about our role, especially in relation to the children of Key Workers and vulnerable learners. This morning, the British Government has provided this clarification:

- *The government has given clear guidance on [self-isolation](#), [household isolation](#) and [social distancing](#) and the most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.*
- *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.*
- *It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.*
- *Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.*

We are awaiting information from the Welsh Government and Qualifications for Wales about the awarding of qualifications, GCSEs, AS, A2s and BTEC as well as other qualifications. Once received, we will communicate.

May I thank you again for all your support. I have always been humbled by your appreciation and willingness to help. I shall miss not seeing you at Parents’ Evenings, Curriculum Meetings or just popping-in for information and guidance. I am also disappointed that we may not be able to do all our usual end of term events and celebrations for our students.

The community that Monmouth Comprehensive School serves is unique and very special to my heart. I know that each and every one of you will support the entire community during this time in keeping safe. It is your commitment, care and aspiration, combined with the fact that you have never stopped believing, that has created a very special school. Let’s us look forward to the time when we are all back together again.

Thank you.

**Mr Davies**  
**Headteacher**

