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Dear Parents and Carers

This week, staff at Queensbury have pulled together to ensure our children are safe and have been getting a good education. However due to the guidance from the government the number of staff able to work has continued to fall. Therefore I have taken the difficult decision to partially **close the school tomorrow and Friday in the first instance** while we wait for further guidance from the government. The students will be told today just before they leave. **Year 8, 9 and 10** will need to **stay at home unless they are the son/daughter of a 'key worker'** where we will be able to accommodate them. If this is the case then they should report to the library when they get into school at 8.35am. **Year 7, 11, 12 and 13** still must **come to school**. We have chosen Year 7 as there is a greater need for parents/carers to take time off work to look after them.

Those in Years 8, 9 and 10 who usually have a free school meal can come in through the front door of the school into the canteen and pick up their meal from 12.45pm to 1.15pm each day starting tomorrow. A member of staff will register and supervise them on entry.

As you may know we have a portal which allows students access to work. Teachers have been busy making sure that work is set on the portal for the lessons on their timetable. In the first instance we have uploaded enough work for 2 weeks. We have shown a short video through tutor time to all year groups to ensure students know how to access this work and this video is also available on the homepage of our website. Students will be directed to complete the work set by the teacher via Edulink that will refer to the resources on the portal. Some work may need to be submitted electronically, and other work will be checked by the teacher on the students' return to school. If you are concerned that your son/daughter will not be able to access the work online then packs are available from our west reception to be picked up by students or parents/carers.

In addition to this there are a wide range of other resources online to help support learning and to help students extend their learning. For example:

1. SENECA (<https://www.senecalearning.com/>) Students can use this website to revise and review GCSE and A Level content. Students can sign up for free and revise specific content for the specifications we follow.
2. GCSE pod (<https://www.gcsepod.com/>) Use audio visual 'Pods' : 4000 3-5 minute chunks of quality learning across 21 subjects
3. My Maths <https://www.mymaths.co.uk/> Providing complete curriculum coverage from Key Stage 1 to A Level, MyMaths offers interactive lessons, assignable homeworks and worksheets, and a wealth of resources that will help you deliver your teaching in the classroom and at home to develop your students' confidence and fluency in maths.
4. GCSE Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>) This is a general website which helps to support learning in a wide range of subjects across all ages.

At present please assume these arrangements will continue into next week. I will contact you again before Monday to confirm the arrangements for next week.

Please continue to use the guidance from the government <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> to stay safe and well. In this difficult time it is even more important for our students in the community to practice our CARE values to ensure they work hard and continue to be kind to each other.

Best Wishes to you all and your family  
Mark Little  
Principal

