



PitsfordSchool

CGW.jbr

12 March 2020

Open Day 21st March 2020 is **postponed**

Dear Parents

I am writing to you concerning the Open Day scheduled to take place on 21st March.

It is with great regret that I have decided to postpone it until the end of the summer term.

With the number of people being diagnosed with Covid-19 coronavirus increasing daily and being predicted to hit its peak over the next fourteen days (namely when the Open Day is scheduled), and a particular focus being paid to ensuring that older people are not exposed unnecessarily, I have come to this decision, following a lot of reflection.

I want to stress to you that the school is as healthy as always and I have no reason to suspect that my students and colleagues are infected or that any visitors to the school would be carrying the virus. Nonetheless, I am aware that the Open Day is the only occasion in the school calendar that a substantial number of visitors (usually around about 250) come on site, a good proportion of them are grandparents, and it seems foolhardy to proceed regardless at the very height of the contagion.

By the summer term it is predicted that the outbreak will have passed and we will be able to have the Open Day then, which will also allow us to showcase the school at its most glorious. I'll write in the next couple of weeks with the date and details.

As I have said in previous letters, I have no intention of closing the school and the government will have to order me to do so, if that happens. We have no cases of infection in the school and everything is continuing as normal (at the same time, my colleagues have put into place plans to ensure that teaching and learning can continue if the school is forced to close for a brief period or if substantial numbers of students have to miss lessons, so please be reassured that we are taking all of this very seriously indeed).

Nonetheless, at this current time, and during the peak of the expected spread of coronavirus, I have decided to postpone Open Day; I would rather be over-cautious than foolhardy.

I hope that this all makes sense and if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Dr C G Walker
Headmaster

