

Orchard Manor School  
John Nash Drive  
Dawlish  
Devon EX7 9SF



19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government announced last night that 'schools in the UK will close their doors on Friday except for vulnerable pupils or children of key workers'. As things stand, Orchard Manor School remains open to all pupils, as all of our pupils, as far as we understand, fall within the 'vulnerable pupils' category. We are expected to receive further clarification today about who is considered to be a 'vulnerable pupil' and who the 'key workers' are. Once we have this clarification, we will of course inform parents of how this will impact the school.

We are, however, facing an increase in staff absences, so we are therefore reviewing staffing levels on a daily basis to decide whether we can safely keep the school open for pupils. Due to these changes, we will be reducing and making changes to our curriculum.

We anticipate that some of our students will be more anxious at the moment, so staff are supporting them as much as possible to reassure them. We understand that year 11s may be particularly anxious due to the announcement that exams will not go ahead as planned. We are providing extra support for year 11s and will be reassuring them that we are full committed to working with them to ensure that they are still able to access their next steps.

Thank you once again for your patience and continued support.

Mark Rose  
Executive Principal