

Senior Boys

Merchant Taylors' Schools
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Headmaster: David Wickes MA (Oxon)



Merchant Taylors' School

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16th March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

We continue to monitor advice from the Government and the Department of Education in particular. The current advice remains that school should stay open and continue as far as possible to run a normal timetable.

As mentioned last week, we have reviewed whether we should go ahead with a number of planned events over the forthcoming days. Given the circumstances, we feel that it is sensible for us to **cancel the Year 8 Parents' Evening** due to be held tomorrow. Parents of boys in this year will be sent written feedback later this week.

We have also taken the decision to postpone the Celebration of Liverpool performances that were due to take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We appreciate that a number of pupils have devoted a considerable amount of time to rehearsing for the show and we are disappointed that they will not be able to showcase their work this week. We will seek to rearrange the show for a later date but, given the current situation, it does not seem sensible to put forward any dates at this stage.

We have decided to postpone the Cathedral Service that was scheduled to take place in Liverpool Cathedral on Friday 27th March. We very much hope that we will be able to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the foundation of the school in the Cathedral later in the calendar year, but again we will await developments before committing ourselves to a firm date.

Another event that we have sought to reschedule is CCF Inspection Day that was originally planned to take place on Friday 24th April. As many people travel to this event from all over the country, we have decided to make an early decision so that all of them can be informed.

We continue to examine our trips within the UK and some of them have been cancelled or rescheduled. A number of others, given the nature of the trip, will continue to take place, but we will keep a careful eye on further information that emerges to assess their continued viability.

For the moment, sports practices will largely continue to operate as scheduled in line with Government advice, although parents will be aware that some tournaments have been cancelled. Decisions on individual matches will be subject to further review as we receive more advice from the authorities and as we consult with our opposition. We expect that fixtures will be cancelled.

Tomorrow we will meet for an assembly to go through various arrangements with the boys. This will be the last time we gather together as a school this term.

We continue to encourage boys to wash their hands and be mindful of hygiene in and around the school. A number of boys have remained at home as they have a persistent cough, a high temperature or they are associated with someone who is displaying those symptoms. We are grateful for the support of parents in this and thank those who have let us know. It enables us to keep an accurate track of the situation and to ensure that work is sent home via Firefly.

We will update as this situation develops. From the School's perspective, the most important thing is everyone's health. We send our good wishes to you and your loved ones.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Wickes
Headmaster