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Broughton High School

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Dear Parents and Carers

These are unprecedented times. No-one has been unaffected by the crisis caused by the Covid-19 virus, and every family will be doing its best to respond to unique challenges. Over the past few weeks the Broughton HS family has been pulling together and supporting each other wherever possible. Despite stresses and concerns the mutual respect shown between young people and adults has been remarkable.

*Schools received confirmation this morning that **we are to close our buildings next week (week beginning 23.3.20) to all staff and all students.** This provides the medium-term clarity that we have all been seeking and will protect the community. Arrangements to support vulnerable young people and children of key workers are being refined by council senior managers.*

You are aware that the SQA exam diet for 2020 has been cancelled. Some students are feeling uncertain about the implications for their SQA qualifications. While awards are ultimately decided by the SQA please be assured that teachers have carefully reviewed estimate grades in order to ensure that all candidates are fairly and accurately represented. In addition, teachers have been meticulous in collating all existing coursework and this will be provided to the SQA. Thank you for the many messages of support and appreciation for all this work.

These same teachers have also been running additional assessments and doing their best to prepare online learning materials for what might be a long haul. School staff have been reporting for work very early and leaving very late, and they do this out of genuine care for your children and young people. I commend them to you.

*Online learning during school closure will primarily be via the **Microsoft Teams** platform. Students have been briefed on the use of this and guides are available on the school website for anyone who missed the assemblies and subsequent instructions from class teachers. Learning resources will build up over time as teachers continue to adapt and create materials that are appropriate for distance learning. Please also check the school website for generic learning platforms such as BBC Bitesize and various subject-specific resources. Your child's guidance teacher will be available online throughout the school closure.*

It is at times like this that individuals and communities show their true colours. I am confident that we will come through these difficult times even stronger than we were before.

John J Wilson

Headteacher