

# LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Boarding parents,

I hope you are well during these difficult times. You will no doubt have heard yesterday's announcement by the the UK Government that schools are to close. As a member of the Boarding Schools Association we are lucky to receive further clarification and obtained the below information extracted from a communication received earlier this evening.

## General travel advice

Where pupils and parents wish to facilitate a return home, this is allowed. The lockdown guidance indicates that visitors to the UK may return home, and the self-isolation guidance states that those quarantining after arrival are allowed to exit their self-isolation early for the purpose of leaving the country. Please note travel advice varies between the four nations.

Schools must also note the following issues:

Flight schedules are severely restricted, and likely to be more so once the full impact of lockdown takes effect

Travel to certain countries requires negative Covid tests before departure

Many countries impose quarantine on arrival, and much of this is on Government facilities, rather than at home

Time differences might make it difficult for them to access remote learning appropriately

Schools should advise pupils and parents based on all the factors above so that they can decide whether a return home or remaining in the UK is the most suitable option.

The full national lockdown guidance can be found here

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home?utm\\_source=782b7dae-3e34-48ef-bce5-ad4e4a076570&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home?utm_source=782b7dae-3e34-48ef-bce5-ad4e4a076570&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

Supplementary information for boarding can be found below but please note this may be subject to change. The full DfE guidance is expected later this evening/tomorrow.

## Those who have travelled:

- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers who have already travelled to school should continue to receive education at school
- Where other pupils, have already travelled to boarding school, they **can** continue to receive remote education in the boarding houses [they equally can receive this at home]
- International boarders who have already arrived in school can remain in boarding and access remote learning from the boarding house. Those who are considered to be children

of key workers (e.g. children of service personnel) and vulnerable children can access education in the same way as their UK based peers

- Students should avoid public transport when travelling to and from school, if possible.

**Those who have not travelled:**

- Should not travel and should receive their remote education at home (unless a vulnerable child or child of a critical worker child).

**Flexi/weekly boarding for vulnerable children/critical worker children:**

- Travel is permitted between school and home and therefore vulnerable children/children of critical workers may continue to board on the same basis as they did pre-lockdown.

**Are we continuing with Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)?**

- The DfE has made it clear they expect schools to continue the process of lateral flow testing for staff and for children who are allowed to attend, and that this was likely to be a crucial element of the eventual return to school after half-term.

I have been asked by several of you to clarify the situation of boarding fees. The school is asking for fee payment to be as normal this term, please. However, a credit note will be issued for every week we are closed this term which will be redeemable against next term's fees.

As in all things the housemasters are the key to communication and will continue to keep in contact with Will. The on-line lessons have started already and whilst the exact methodology of determining the U6 and Y11 A level and GCSE grades has not been revealed it is clear that continuing to work hard is the best way to obtain the best results.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Dr D Rowe  
Head of Boarding