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Deputy Headteachers: Brian Burns B.A. (Hons), N.P.Q.H. — Craig Wicking B.Sc. (Hons), N.P.Q.H.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## School Resilience

Southborough prides itself on its resilience and I am writing to inform you of the steps we are taking to ensure that we maintain the best possible provision for our students throughout the latest episode of the ongoing coronavirus situation.

Firstly, you may already know that yesterday we had a confirmed coronavirus case in Year 8 and another confirmed case in Year 10. The boys who were in proximity with these students were asked to self-isolate from yesterday, in accordance with Department for Education guidelines.

Unfortunately, however, we have a number of staff who have also been obliged to self-isolate. This means that I was obliged to ask all students in Years 8 and 10 (only) to stay at home from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November and access Remote Learning. This means that they will have live lessons on Google Meet according to their timetables, enabled via Classcharts.

On site provision for Years 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 will continue as normal and we are drafting in additional teachers to ensure that this remains the case.

Our catering provision has also been affected by obligatory staff self-isolation and we are working hard with our caterers to ensure that there is provision at break and lunchtime. This will include a hot meal for all students eligible for Free School Meals and any other student who would like one. It might be helpful for students who are able to bring a packed lunch to do so, however.

As you would expect, we are also organising additional cleaning in classrooms and around the school.

Please also be assured that student and staff safety remains my top priority and that we will continue to adhere to Department for Education guidance in all matters. Further detail on this guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Yours sincerely,

Niall Smith  
Headteacher

