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16 March 2020

Dear Parent,

These are very worrying times, so much so that we felt it important to write jointly to you regarding our contingency plan for Belfast Boys' Model School and Belfast Model School for Girls, should schools be instructed to close.

Please be assured that our main priority remains the health and wellbeing of pupils, staff and their families. We are concerned by recent media coverage and the potential of a long school closure. We have not been given any additional information by DE.

As a result, we have met with other school principals in North Belfast and with senior representative in CCEA, to ensure we are fully prepared to meet the needs of our pupils in both schools. In discussion, we realise that the needs of both schools are different and therefore plans for the remainder of the week will vary.

- **Tuesday 17th March – Public Holiday for both schools**

*Belfast Model School for Girls had School Development Day on Friday 13th March, therefore it will reopen for **all pupils**, as normal on **Wednesday 18th March 2020**.*

For Belfast Boys' Model School pupils, the following will apply for the remainder of the week:

- **Wednesday 18th March – School Development Day** (Only pupils completing GCSE Art & Design should attend from 9am to 5pm. NO OTHER PUPILS TO ATTEND) This will allow staff to prepare the necessary resources in the event of a school closure.
- **Thursday 19th & Friday 20th March – Pupils in Years 12-14 only need to attend.** Special classes will run for all subjects.

We realise that these changes are short notice, but would ask for your understanding and patience. Our priority remains doing what is in the best interests of our pupils.

We will endeavour to keep you informed as and when the situation changes.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Montgomery
Belfast Boys' Model School

Ms P Stuart
Belfast Model School for Girls