

March 2020

Dear Parents

Bus Charges

A number of you have been contacting us about bus payments during the school closure, as you can imagine this situation is impacting all of us including small businesses such as Pikes and our own teaching and learning budgets. We are doing what we can to protect the well-being and sustainability of all of our stakeholders and have been in discussions with all concerned in seeking a reasonable solution that suits everybody.

With this in mind we have offered a 50% retainer to our bus providers. This action will keep the providers trading during this difficult time; enabling them to pay staff, maintain their overheads, and ensure the service is available when we finally return to business as usual.

In order for us to maintain this payment to our providers we are asking parents to support the school in the same way. As many of you are aware the independent bus service is paid for from contributions from parents, together with a subsidy from school resources; we are therefore asking that parents continue to pay 50% contribution towards these costs. Clearly we understand that this may not be possible for everybody, in the short term, however if you are able to pay we would be extremely grateful.

I will ask Mrs Potter to adjust your accounts so that we can track payment and you can see the reducing balance. If anyone is in hardship, as a result of this situation, and therefore unable to pay the reduced amount please contact us and we will do our best to support you through this difficult time.

For year 11 parents, we are making adjustments and closing down SCOPAY accounts, where possible, by offsetting balances on Prom and Bistro accounts against outstanding bus payments. Where a balance remains we respectfully request payment before the end of the school year; any refunds due to parents will be repaid in due course. We will of course only take payments due to the end of the Spring term.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter, I hope that you are all coping in this very difficult time and managing to stay well.

Yours sincerely

Ms Caplin