

19 March 2020



LEARNING CHANGES LIVES

Dear Parent/ Carer,

In light of the news today that schools will be asked to close their doors at the end of the day on Friday 20 March to all but the most vulnerable of students and the children of key workers, we have decided to adopt the following response:

Friday 20 March

The Academy will run a normal school day until the end of lunch, finishing at 12.45pm. The Academy will then be closed to students **except those identified as vulnerable, or who are the children of key workers**, until further notice.

Work packs will be handed to students to take home with them containing two full weeks of work. This will occupy students until the scheduled start of the Easter break.

Due to staff shortages and in consultation with parents the Nursery and Pre-School provision will remain closed until further notice.

Monday 23 March until Friday 3 April

- i. The families of students identified as 'vulnerable' on the academy register will be asked to continue to send their child to school for the slightly shorter period of 9.00am until 2.00pm each school day.
- ii. Students from homes where one or more parent is occupied in a key worker profession will also be able to attend the Academy from 9.00am until 2.00pm each school day.

If your child falls into the second (key worker) group **it is essential that you contact the Academy by email to inform us of your intention to continue to send your child to school**. For reasons of health and safety we cannot occupy an 'open house' system as we may not have sufficient staff on any one day to safely supervise students.

Saturday 4 April until Sunday 19 April

The Academy will be closed to ALL students throughout the scheduled Easter break. No additional work will be set for this holiday period.

Monday 20 April until further notice

In the event that schools remain closed into the summer term work will be provided on a daily and weekly basis via the Academy's website and student remote desktop. All students have log-in access to this system and can connect via the internet.

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Free School Meals

In order to support those families who are entitled to free school meals the Academy will issue vouchers for a local supermarket equal to the cost of a daily meal to cover the period from Monday 23 March until Friday 3 April. This process will be reviewed once the government have issued further guidance on the provision of a national scheme.

General Information

Student work packs will contain an exercise book in which all work set should be completed. Each separate subject should be clearly distinguished by drawing a line under each piece of work and writing a new heading for the next task.

Staff will remain available via email and any questions or queries can be directed to them electronically. On days when the Academy is occupied there will be limited staffing of phones.

The Secretary of State has declared that “...we will not go ahead with assessments or exams, and that we will not be publishing performance tables for this academic year. We will work with the sector and Ofqual to ensure children get the qualifications they need.”

We remain unclear about the government’s strategy in respect of the awarding of qualifications for students in Year 11 this academic year. However, we shall update Year 11 students and their families as more information concerning this becomes available.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support. We shall continue to do our very best to provide education in these somewhat challenging times and thank you in advance for your patience as we adapt to working in a very different way to our usual mode of operation.

Please continue to follow NHS advice and stay safe. We shall continue to post updates to the website as new information becomes available.

Yours faithfully,



Michael del Río
Principal