

## To Parents and Carers of all Students in Years 7 and 8

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Academy Partial Closure to Years 7 and 8 due to Coronavirus

I am sorry to advise you that it has become necessary to close the Academy to all Year 7 and 8 students on a temporary basis with effect from tomorrow, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, due to the current unprecedented situation in terms of Coronavirus.

This period of closure is initially for the rest of this week however it may be necessary to extend this partial closure beyond Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Please ensure you visit the Academy website daily for updates.

The partial closure will allow us to manage a smaller number of students safely with available staff resources. Inevitably, there are staff absences occurring within school, as elsewhere, due to the need for individuals to self-isolate in accordance with Government advice concerning Coronavirus.

This is a difficult decision for the Academy to make but I am sure you will appreciate that we must prioritise those students who are due to sit their final external GCSE and A Level examinations in the coming weeks. We understand that this will impact on working families and wish to reassure you that the Academy will reopen to Year 7 and 8 students as soon as it is possible to do so.

### Communication with Parents and Carers

We will keep you informed of any developments by posting information on the Academy website, text messages and Twitter and by letter where possible. As ever, please ensure that the Academy has your current mobile number in order to communicate effectively with you. You will be able to contact Reception as normal because the Academy will remain open to other year groups.

### Work for Students During Closure and Communication with Staff

All Year 7 and 8 students should refer to the Academy website from tomorrow to access subject lesson materials, resources and guidance to be completed during the period of closure.

Your child has been issued with an exercise book and pen and ALL work completed for all subjects during the period of closure should be completed in this book, however, if this book becomes full, any pad of lined paper which can be returned to school in due course will suffice.

Year 7 students have Knowledge Organisers which they should use to revise and enhance their understanding of key topics. Both Year 7 and Year 8 students are also encouraged to use BBC Bitesize as this is a useful learning resource.

As you will appreciate, this is a highly unusual situation for everyone and we seek your support in encouraging your child to continue to study at home during the period of school closure.

### **Contacting the Academy**

If you have any concerns or queries, please continue to contact the Academy on the main switchboard number shown at the top of this letter. If you have specific concerns regarding the welfare or safety of any child at the Academy, please ask for Mrs Becconsall, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, or Mrs Howard, Family Support Officer.

### **Return to School**

Initially, we intend to reopen school to Year 7 and 8 students on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 however this remains subject to further developments. Please continue to visit the Academy website for daily updates. We hope that everyone within our Academy community remains safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Heyes', written in a cursive style.

Mr C Heyes  
Headteacher