

Thursday 19 March 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

I am writing to inform you that I have taken the difficult decision to close the academy today. This closure comes as a result of the unprecedented challenges that COVID-19 presents to our communities. This week, we have witnessed student attendance decrease, alongside an increase in staff unable to work due to the recent regulations and restrictions which the UK Government has put in place.

At present, the school will remain closed until Monday 20th April 2020. Any further closures will be communicated to you as and when this decision is made, and we kindly ask you to monitor our websites regularly for further information. The school will operate a monitored answer machine for urgent messages; please dial the usual number to access this service.

In line with Government guidance, we will be offering continued provision from Monday 23rd March for particular groups of students, including children of key workers and vulnerable students. We will be in touch separately about this.

During this challenging time, we hope to minimise the disruption to our students' education as much as possible. Therefore, we have set students work to complete on a daily basis. Please try to implement a consistent routine at home, and ensure that your child has a structure of work and rest times.

Moreover, we are implementing plans to provide food for students eligible for Free School Meals; information about this will be communicated separately.

I trust that you understand the reasons behind this difficult decision, and I would like to express my thanks for your continued understanding. I also want to thank all school staff, both those in the classrooms and those who work behind the scenes, for their commitment and sacrifice during these times.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the Government guidance around COVID-19: ensure that you wash your hands frequently and that you limit all unnecessary travel and social contact.

I wish you all the best and I hope that you, your families and loved ones stay safe and healthy.

With best wishes,

Paul Smith

Chief Executive Officer

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