



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, following the Government announcement this evening, all schools in England have been asked to close from today, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021; as part of a national lockdown planned in response to a surge in COVID-19 and a new variant in the virus.

This will mean that the vast majority of students will need to remain at home and access remote learning until further notice is available on when schools will be able to re-open.

As a staffing body we are extremely saddened to not have the majority of our students in the Academy building, but we are determined to continue with our support to the community during this latest move to control the pandemic.

With this point in mind we have a very clear remit:

- Continued safeguarding and well-being of all students
- Health & Safety of students and staff
- High quality remote learning, which is tracked and monitored for engagement

## Remote Learning:

As you have been informed, we are providing remote learning for all students, whilst the Academy is closed. All students and parents or carers can be reminded of how we are approaching this via the link below:

[Remote Learning at Corby Business Academy](#)

**Engagement to remote learning is of significant importance to us, therefore please can I ask that parents and carers support their children with areas to work and the monitoring of completion. Whilst work is set on Microsoft Teams, parents and carers can use Show My Homework to ascertain whether their child is submitting the assigned work.**

We have also established robust tracking and monitoring for work being completed, attendance and engagement to lessons and well-being checks for all students. **If you require any additional support, or are concerned about remote learning, please ensure you initially contact your child's tutor.**

**If there are device / laptop access issues at home please contact enquiries: [enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org)**

## SEND provision, Head of Year or Student Care / well-being:

Any queries relating to SEND provision and remote learning, Head of Year or Student Care / well-being can be sent to the relevant staff. **Please do not hesitate to contact us as required.** The following link can be used as a reminder of contact details:

[Staff Contacts](#)

## Vulnerable children and the children of key workers

The Academy will remain open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, as was the case during the national lockdown from March to June last year.

## Free school meals

Those students entitled to free school meals will continue to receive vouchers. The vouchers will be sent in an electronic format, easily downloadable onto to your phone.

Details can be found on <https://www.wonde.com/free-school-meals>

Those who have previously had arrangements to have vouchers printed and posted will continue to receive them in paper format. If you need vouchers posting please email [enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org) quoting the supermarket of your choice and we will add you to our postal list.

If your circumstances have changed, you can apply for free school vouchers at <https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/Pages/pupil-premium.aspx>

## Reopening

As an academy, we had planned over the Christmas break to ensure the school is as safe as possible for students and staff to return. We know this latest announcement will cause disruption for many families and we would like to thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we follow Government guidance.

At the moment, there is no clear date for when schools will be able to re-open to students, but we will update you as soon as this information becomes available.

## Examinations

The Government has confirmed this evening that GCSE and A-level examinations will not go ahead as planned. We will share more information with you on this as it becomes available to us. With this in mind, engagement with learning is vitally important, this will support students with their outcomes no matter what form this takes in the future.

## Moving forward

Your support is what got the school through 2020 and it is what will see us through the challenges of this next period.

While the school is closed, we encourage you to keep monitoring the Government's advice – this information can be found on the Government website: <https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus>.


Students will soon have broadcasts from myself, and other members of staff, to access and absorb communications; they will also have access to tutor time and assemblies, for which attendance and access are important.

We will of course continue to keep you updated on future developments via our website letter and text alerts.

Finally, I'd like to again reinforce our commitment to supporting remote learning at home during these times, which will be delivered online, so if you have **any** issues or questions please contact us at any time.

Please stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely



Mr S. Underwood  
Associate Principal