



Dear Parents and Carers,

I thought it was important to communicate with you a brief summary of our first full week back at the Academy and inform you of how we will be providing education for students in the event of enforced home learning in the future.

September return to the Academy site:

As I have already stated, we have all been so impressed with the students' attitudes and approach to the new protocols within the Academy. Aspects such as face coverings, timings of lessons, staggered exits, different entry points to the building, as well as access to the restaurant during breakfast and lunch, have been really pleasing.

Our community's continued support and cooperation will mean we are able to focus on Teaching & Learning within the classroom, and keep our Health & Safety measures robust. I know you all have different perspectives on the COVID-19 situation, which are acknowledged and can often be very polarised in opinion. All we request is that you understand our need to follow current Government guidance and implement best practice within the building.

Online Learning:

You may be keeping yourselves up-to-date with certain situations across the country, such as the current R-rate in our local areas, examples of 'Local Lockdowns' or even cases of partial school closures. We are prepared for any circumstance that arises as we move forward, and I would like to give you the security of our approach if the current full-time provision needs to change.

In the event of enforced home / remote learning we will continue with our delivery of lesson content and resources via Microsoft TEAMS; where work will be set by teachers and accessed by students. Assignments and work will be completed via TEAMS. Completion of assignments or work summaries will be available on 'Show my Homework'; this is our new system that allows parents and carers to access and monitor if students' work is being completed.

All students and parents / carers will soon be directed towards presentations to support the processes above. We will also be ensuring that students have time in the building to familiarise themselves with log-in and navigation around Microsoft TEAMS.

We appreciate that most of you are now very familiar to Microsoft TEAMS delivery, but for new students and parents / carers it is important we provide you with this support. It may also act as a useful refresher for others. Please stay alert for this information in the coming weeks.



Curriculum intent and delivery:

The Academy has mapped students' curriculum to maximise opportunities for home learning as and when required. This sees our Key Stage 3 (Year 7, 8 & 9) subjects following topics and programmes of study that allow us to link to the Oak National Academy curriculum and resources, whilst our Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11) curriculum is now plotted to utilise lessons and resources available in GCSE Pod. There are also various subject specific Learning Platforms that students will continue to access, details of which are currently on our website and will form part of our communication in the future.

In the event of enforced home learning, Year 11 & 13 students will also receive audio-based lessons with live teacher discussion and feedback; this will be in addition to the learning platforms and assignments previously mentioned.

IT / laptop access at home:

We have performed two surveys over the last few months, based on students' and families' capacity to access learning at home. As we are aware, circumstances change and there is also a need for us to gain knowledge about our new students; therefore, we are currently performing an IT audit survey with students to understand the requirements at home in our community. These surveys will be supported by staff in the Academy to ensure students appreciate the context of the questions involved.

Based on the results of the survey, we may contact some families to offer support. However, it is important to note that there will be strict criteria and financial or resource-based capacity to implement our IT support at home. Therefore, we recommend you consider ensuring your child has single use access to a PC or laptop device. **This is not a directive**, just a best-case suggestion - we understand that in the current economic climate it may be difficult.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this correspondence. Within the next three weeks, more information and guidance will follow in regards to home learning access arrangements.

I hope you have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mr S. Underwood
Associate Principal