



MCx/RHt

14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Closure of Year 8 and Year 9 bubbles: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Unfortunately, we will need to temporarily close our Year 8 and Year 9 bubbles from the end of the school day today.

We have had a significant number of staff who have had to self-isolate. Having considered our ability to operate lessons as normal and to supervise break and lunch times based on available staffing, we are unable to continue to operate as normal over the next two days.

**Therefore Year 8 and Year 9 students should not attend the Academy this Thursday and Friday. Instead, they will be taught their lessons through the TEAMS APP.**

- 1) Students are expected to follow their timetable as closely as possible. This will involve attending Teams meetings and accessing work through the class group on Teams. Registers will be taken in the usual way.
- 2) Staff will have set up Teams invites for their year classes and be online to teach each class as per the timetable.
- 3) All resources will have been uploaded to the Teams classes for students to access
- 3) All those students requiring paper copies of work will be receiving them today during an additional tutor period at 2.55pm today for years 8 and 9 where these resources will be distributed to identified students.
- 4) This additional Tutor time will be used to share the expectations of students on Thursday and Friday in terms of accessing lessons, reminding them about the 'I want to talk' button on the student portal and protocols about behaviour during remote lessons. We will continue to take our students safety seriously and will carefully monitor attendance over the next two days, and respond to any concerns that are raised.

We expect that there will be a resumption of full attendance following half term but will contact you through the usual channels should this arrangement need to change.

I realise that this is a challenging situation for all parents, but I wanted to reassure you that this decision has not been taken lightly, and has been made in the consultation with ATT and by notifying the local authority.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your child's tutor in the first instance.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mary Cox'.

Mary Cox  
Interim Principal