



5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Our Executive Principal wrote to you last week following the Government's announcement just before the New Year about when pupils would return to our academy this term.

We apologise for writing to you again so soon on this subject. However, as you may have seen, the Prime Minister has now announced a new national lockdown because of rising infection rates of Covid-19 and to try to prevent the further spread of the virus.

As part of this, all primary schools, secondary schools and colleges in England are to be closed from today for in-person attendance, except for children of key workers or vulnerable children.

The Prime Minister also announced that "not all exams" would go ahead as normal this year and that there would be alternative arrangements. He said the Government would set out further details on this at a later date, and when that information is announced, we will update those of you whose children are due to take exams this year.

**From today:**

**If you or your partner is a key worker, or if your child is classed as vulnerable, then the academy will remain open** and we look forward to seeing them as normal for teaching and learning. Please note that all students coming into school, for the period of lockdown, should **arrive at 8:45am and sign in at main reception**. The school day will end at 3pm.

For those attending in person, we will be maintaining the approach to safe working and infection control that we have adopted throughout the pandemic. As this will include additional ventilation, we would advise those attending to ensure they wear additional layers of clothing during this period of cold weather.

**For all other pupils, we will be offering remote provision – this is likely to be until at least the end of the February half-term.** High-quality remote learning will be provided to make sure our pupils continue to receive a consistent education. We know that this places pressure on you at a difficult time but your support in helping your child engage as much as possible is so important and we are very grateful for it.

In order to access the remote learning materials, your child should log on to their school email and Microsoft Teams accounts by 9am each day. Work provided will be a combination of pre-set assignments and online 'live' lessons.

Please note that from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January and through the period of lockdown, we will be reverting to the normal school day timings for lessons for all year groups. The lesson times are:

Period 1:	09:00 – 10:00
Period 2:	10:00 – 11:00
Period 3:	11:25 – 12:25
Period 4:	12:35 – 13:25
Period 5:	14:00 – 15:00

We will continue to stay in touch with you of course. However, do let me know if you require any support relating to these new arrangements.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation. Please continue to take care and to stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Butterell', written in a cursive style.

Patrick Butterell  
Principal