



10<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter reaches you and your families in strong health - body, mind and spirit. I am writing to you all to express my gratitude for your continued support in sending your child to the academy, especially as we enter our second national lockdown. Your support is enabling the academy to close learning gaps that emerged during our first lockdown and crucially allowing your child to experience a semblance of normality, which will support their overall development.

I write to our families with the purpose of acknowledging that with the introduction of a second lockdown, anxieties may increase and concerns for the well-being of your child maybe heightened. I can assure you that we are continuing to implement the necessary safety measures so that all of our students and staff are safe. Although we continue to experience, like most schools, positive COVID19 cases, I feel we are in a strong position to manage these effectively due to the measures that have been introduced since September.

However, we are constantly revisiting our measures to ensure we can keep all our students safe and learning. For example, we have introduced for this half term a much more stringent process around seating plan arrangements, which will enable us to be more precise around our contact tracing, helping reduce the numbers of students' missing their education. We now insist on face coverings in all communal areas and when social distancing cannot be achieved. Moreover, we are constantly reflecting on whether any further changes are required and are always willing to make the necessary adaptations to our risk assessment to keep everyone safe. Lastly, it is important to stress that we are constantly speaking with government authorities on public health when we do receive confirmation of a positive case and follow advice provided.

My last point is something that is incredibly important to stress to all families. Unfortunately, we have had examples where students, who have been displaying symptoms, have still been sent to the academy. Consequently, this has increased the risk of potential positive COVID19 cases being transmitted in the academy, as well as potentially causing more students to have to self-isolate. Therefore, it is imperative that if your child or anyone else in the household is showing COVID19 symptoms, they must remain at home.

I am confident as a community we will overcome the challenges COVID19 has caused. Furthermore, I am optimistic for the future, especially considering recent news regarding a potential vaccine. However, currently, we must all continue to play our part, considering each other's health and particularly our invaluable NHS and healthcare workers who are fighting on the frontline for a second time.

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Yours sincerely

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

Morgan Haines  
Principal