

5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to all our families and I hope this letter reaches you all in strong health - body, mind and spirit. I am writing with the purpose of communicating and to update you following last night's government announcement.

I appreciate that recent government announcements have already led to several changes regarding the start of the spring term, which has certainly not helped with coherent planning and a smooth start to the new year. This latest announcement has consequently caused us to re-think carefully our virtual/remote learning strategy as it's planned for a far longer period. I am determined to ensure that our students receive an excellent learning provision for the entire duration that they are not attending the physical academy.

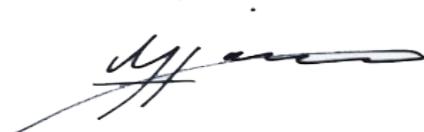
I wanted to update all families regarding our remote/virtual learning plans for this week, which largely remain the same as previously communicated on 31st December, which is stated below.

- **Years 7-10 and Year 12** will have remote learning from the start of term **on Thursday 7th January until Friday 8th January. This will not be live teaching.** A programme of study will be communicated by tomorrow that will provide suitable work for these two days to complete independently.
- **Years 11 and 13 will have live teaching vis TEAM** from the start of term **on Thursday 7th January until Friday 8th January.** This will reflect students' normal timetable and hours for the day. Information will be communicated by tomorrow.
- **Y13 BTEC exams will still be taking place as planned this week.**
- **Community classrooms** for critical workers and vulnerable students will start from **Wednesday 6th January.**

As a result of schools being closed for a far longer period than anticipated, it is crucial that we re-design our plans for remote/virtual learning for the next six weeks to ensure our students get a truly great experience and provision. Consequently, we will be working on these plans today and tomorrow, which will go live from Monday 11th January.

Therefore, I ask for your patience regarding our plans for our remote/virtual learning strategy, including the timetable for the next six weeks. We plan to have this communicated to families by the morning of Friday 8th January. It is important we remain the same, optimistic with the highest of expectations about what we can achieve in this period, as well as staying connected as a community.

Yours sincerely



Morgan Haines
Principal