

17th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Enforced Partial School Closure: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Since returning to the academy in January for the Spring term students have been exceptional in re-engaging with their studies despite the challenges that the pandemic continues to deliver. They have responded responsibly to the changes to restrictions and safety measures; wearing face coverings throughout the day, prioritising ventilation and hand sanitising and following the modified routes around the academy.

We have worked extremely hard over the past two weeks to remain fully open with high levels of staff absence. But disappointingly due to exceptional levels and to ensure staff and student safety we have regrettably had to make the decision to implement a temporary partial closure.

We have made the decision to close to **Year 9** from **Tuesday 18th January** until **Friday 21st January**. We will continually review and should staffing levels improve, and it becomes safe to do so, we will alert you that we are reopening to **Year 9** sooner.

Home Learning

We have a strong plan in place for home learning via Google Classroom. Over the course of the pandemic during partial closures and national lockdowns attendance and engagement has been exceptional and through live and interactive lessons with teachers students have continued to make excellent progress, preventing lost learning time. In the initial period of this closure we will provide learning resources through students' Google classrooms.

Students should be up and learning by 8:25am each morning. They should go to their Google Classroom and will then follow their normal timetable for the week by visiting the correct classrooms and the correct times. Whilst at the early stages students will have work posted in their classroom to complete and over time we would move to live lessons with some pre-recorded. Pens and paper etc are essential and can be available for you to pick up at school if you need. In order for parents/carers to support their children at home, we have created a Home Learning webpage which provides you with guidance on how to access Google Classroom with your child. You can access this at <https://bit.ly/ADWICKOLP>.

All students have been shown how to access Google Classroom and we have checked that they have their login and password details. Students have been given a sticker with this information which will be in their planner. Should you need any support with Google Classroom or internet access then please contact our enquiries team by emailing Enquiries@adwick.outwood.com.

We have a limited number of loan IT devices available for those eligible for support.

Key worker & vulnerable children

We have added a form to the academy website for the parents of key workers and our most vulnerable children so that we can support them in providing critical care where it is required - and we hope to be able to support these students wherever we can. Please do not hesitate to contact the academy if you require further information on who is entitled to this support.

Google form - <https://forms.gle/EQ1eNy186zCZumwW7>

Free School Meal Parcel

We have support available for families of students in receipt of Free School Meals in the form of a food parcel. Please let us know, by contacting the academy on the above number or by emailing Enquiries@adwick.outwood.com, if you would like to collect one of these.

Again, this has been an incredibly difficult decision for me, especially considering the previous time students have spent away from the academy. We have worked really hard to try to remain open for all, but I cannot compromise the health or safety of our academy community and I hope you appreciate and understand the rationale around this decision.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Scruby', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Andy Scruby
Principal