

10 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

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

I hope that you and those close to you are well and managing to remain safe as we deal with the challenges that the pandemic brings us.

Due to exceptional staff absence and to ensure staff and student safety we have regrettably had to make the decision to implement a temporary partial closure. You may be aware that we had to close to Year 9 this last week and Year 8 the week before due to absence. Due to the nature of isolations and periods of illness we have had to consider rotating year groups attending the academy.

We have unfortunately had to make the decision this afternoon to close to **Year 7** from **Monday 13th December until we break up for Christmas on Thursday 16th December**. 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 7** sooner. We will remain open for all other year groups.

Please see the [letter](#) shared earlier this week outlining our planning for students returning in January and lateral flow testing.

I know this will be disappointing for students as they have made a fantastic start at the academy and the week leading to the Christmas break is always a highlight with celebration assemblies, performances and our Christmas dinner. Please be reassured that learning will continue through the week and we will reschedule any opportunities such as reward assemblies when they return in January.

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 at 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

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A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

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. If any students are struggling to access their login and password details please contact the academy at the earliest opportunity. 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, again please contact the academy if you require support.

Key worker children

We have added a form to the academy website for the parents of key worker 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. This onsite facility will also be available to our most vulnerable children so that they can access routine care and support.

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.

This has been an incredibly difficult decision for me, especially considering the previous time students have spent away from school. 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 loop at the end.

Andy Scruby
Principal