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21st March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

You have seen the reports of increasing COVID infection rates across the country in the news, which have already resulted in some part and full closures to year groups in schools. We have opened this week and are already running a skeleton staff across certain parts of the school and outsourcing supply staff to keep us fully open. The current staffing issues here and with supply agencies are now forcing us to make the difficult decision to move Year 10 teaching from face to face in school, to remote learning from home from Tuesday 22nd March for 4 days until Monday 28th March. We can only apologise for the inconvenience that this causes our students and families.

Ensuring that our year 10 students receive quality education while working remotely is our priority and so we have prepared paper resources for the core (English and Maths) and EBacc subjects (Science, History, and MFL). We have given every student a resource booklet to work on from Tuesday 22nd March. We expect students to be up and ready to learn for the start of day at 8.45am.

Furthermore, we are hoping that online materials will be available from Thursday 24th March. From this date, your child should be ready and logged on for the start of morning meeting at 8:20 am. From 8:45am your child's class teacher will be online at the time of the timetabled lesson and be available to teach and answer any questions on the work. Where your child's teacher is not present, a teacher from the curriculum area, English department for example, will be available to answer any questions. The work set via MTeams as assignments should be completed and submitted before the end of the lesson. For whatever reason, your son/daughter cannot access the MTeams assignments they should work through the paper resources during the timings of the school day and upload or send a photograph of the work completed to their class teacher or Head of Department. If for any reason MTeams is still unavailable on Thursday 24th March, we will inform you in advance.

A register of students' attendance to lessons will be taken based on the submission of work for each lesson. This will be monitored by the Advisory Tutors, Head of Year and Attendance Team at the academy. We will be in contact with any student who does not engage with the work to offer support if needed.

There will be some students in Year 10 that we will continue to offer on-site provision for and these will be those with an EHCP or Social Care involvement. Mrs Leftwick will be in contact with these families. These students will work through the same work set to those at home so as to provide an equitable curriculum offer to all students over the next seven days

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their ongoing support during what is a turbulent time. Please do not worry about GCSE content, we will ensure that all content is covered and revisited by the time your child sits their exams in Y11. Extra work can be done on Seneca Learning for all subjects, Educate for Science and Geography and Hegarty Maths. Please stay safe and look after each other. It is vital that our students keep working remotely so that we can help our children climb mountains to university or a real equivalent, thrive in a top job and live their best life.

Yours faithfully,

Miss P Jones

Vice Principal – Quality of Education