

Monday 4th January, 2020.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following tonight's government announcement, I can confirm that our school will move to Remote Learning from tomorrow for all students **except those considered vulnerable and the children of critical workers**. A360's Remote Learning Strategy is expected to remain in place until February half term. However, we will provide regular updates as we receive further guidance. All children attending school site, irrespective of phase, are expected to wear full school uniform. If you are a Critical Worker, please complete our registration form to secure your child's place; this can be accessed on the school website or here: <https://forms.gle/GzvQd1YXbFMRCowE8>

### **Primary Phase:**

Our Primary Phase learning platforms are currently live for our primary children to access learning:

EYFS and KS1 - SeeSaw

KS2 - Google Classroom

Helena West (Head of School Primary/Assistant Principal) will contact parents to confirm specific arrangements through our learning app, Marvellous Me. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher using the year group address. Alternatively, please contact Main Reception on 0191 300 6506.

Our dedicated Welfare Team will be in touch this week to offer further support and check that you are happy with your child's remote learning experience.

### **Secondary Phase:**

All students will continue to access their learning remotely using Google Classroom as they are doing currently. Should you require any support or further guidance, please access the 'Need Help' option on our Learning Hub (Student - Secondary <https://sites.google.com/laidlawschoolstrust.com/academy360>). Alternatively, please email class teachers or contact Main Reception. 0191 300 6506.

Our dedicated Welfare Team will be in touch this week to offer further support and check that you are happy with your child's remote learning experience.

### **The Hub:**

The Hub will remain open to all students for face-to-face learning. If your child is likely to be absent from school for any reason, please contact [clare.little@academy360.co.uk](mailto:clare.little@academy360.co.uk) so that a remote learning plan can be put in place. However, attendance of children registered in the Hub is strongly encouraged in light of government guidance.

### **Free School Meals:**

We will continue to supply vouchers to the parents/carers of children eligible for Free School Meals. Please ensure that your contact details have been updated if there are any changes in circumstances, including phone number, address and email. This will prevent any potential delay.

### **Track & Trace:**

I must also take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of national lockdown restrictions in the community. This expectation is absolutely imperative to keep our staff, students and community safe. If your child is attending school as part of our *Critical Worker and Vulnerable Children Programme* we will continue to contact you using email and text as our mode of communication if your child is considered a 'close contact' of a Covid-Positive case. Please update your contact details by contacting Main Reception (0191-300-6506) if you haven't done so already. If your child is identified as not following lockdown restrictions in the community, Academy 360 reserves the right to withdraw your child's place from the *Critical Worker and Vulnerable Children Programme*. This is to ensure that everybody remains as safe as possible. Thank you for your support and understanding.

### **Exam Cohorts - Y6 & Y11**

According to tonight's announcement, examination arrangements are currently under review - this includes SATs and GCSEs. However, I must stress that **GCSE exams scheduled for the coming week's are going ahead as planned:**

- Y10 - BTEC Music - Thursday 7th January. Student attendance required at 8:30;
- Y11 (selected students) IMedia Unit 1 -Monday 11th January. Student attendance required at 13:00.

Students attending these exams must arrive at school site promptly wearing full school uniform.

Whilst the Prime Minister confirmed that 'alternative arrangements' were being explored we remain mindful that we may be required to submit centre assessed grades similarly to last year. Therefore, please ensure that your child engages fully with remote learning as we will be required to take account of progress to date and monitor their engagement during the current lockdown. I appreciate that the uncertainty may cause parents and students some distress but we will continue to monitor the situation carefully and provide frequent updates. Again, I must reiterate the importance of students fully engaging in remote learning so that we can confidently ensure that your child receives a grade that is reflective of their true progress. Please contact [peter.seed@academy360.co.uk](mailto:peter.seed@academy360.co.uk) if you have any questions or concerns relating to GCSEs.

As always, I extend my sincere thanks to you for your support, patience and understanding during a significantly challenging period for us all. We will continue to work together to support our students and minimise the impact of the pandemic on their learning.

Kindest regards,



Ms.R.Donohue

(Principal)