

4 January 2021

Dear parent/carer

I am writing to you to provide a further update on start of term arrangements at The Dukeries Academy. I hope you can excuse any repetition from previous communications as I attempt to provide clarity to our plans. As I write this letter, the Prime Minister has announced a briefing at 8pm this evening and as a result this information is subject to change. As it currently stands:

*From Tuesday 5 January 2021 until Friday 8 January 2021:*

- Students in all year groups (Year 7 – Year 13) should not attend the Academy in person. They should access remote learning from home. Details can be found in my letter of 31 December 2020:  
<https://www.dukeries.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/12/Letter-to-parents-31.12.20.pdf>
- A member of our Pastoral Team will have contacted you today to confirm on-site provision for;
  - the children of Key Workers who have requested provision
  - vulnerable students
  - students whose parents/carers have contacted us to confirm they do not have access to remote learning.
- Please contact us on [office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk) if you require further information related to this on-site provision.
- On-site provision will take place during normal Academy hours: 8.40am-3.00pm.
- School transport will operate as normal.
- Full Academy uniform and equipment expectations will apply to all students attending on-site provision. The Academy will continue to adopt its year group bubble approach when students are on site.
- Period 7 intervention will not go ahead this week.
- We expect students to attend every lesson and absence will be followed up by our Pastoral Teams. Please follow normal Academy attendance procedures if your child is ill and will not be attending either remote learning or on-site provision.
- Vocational and technical examinations will go ahead on Wednesday 6 January 2021 and Friday 8 January 2021. The sixth form team have contacted individuals concerned to confirm plans for these exams.

*From Monday 11 January 2021 until Friday 15 January 2021:*

- Students in exam groups (Year 11 and 13) should attend the Academy in person, along with the children of key workers, vulnerable students and students who cannot access remote learning from home.
- Full Academy uniform and equipment expectations will apply to all students attending on-site provision. Again, school transport will operate as normal.
- All other students in Year 7-10 and Year 12 will continue to access remote learning from home.

- Vocational and technical examinations in Year 11, 12 and 13 will go ahead during this week as planned.

Unless the guidance changes, we will reopen to all students for face-to-face teaching on Monday 18 January 2021.

To support well-being a member of our Academy team will contact you, at least once per week, to check in with students and offer any help and support.

### **Free School Meals**

I am working to confirm Free School Meal arrangements for students in Year 7-11. I will contact you tomorrow to provide further information. Sixth Form students who are eligible for the Sixth Form Bursary should submit receipts for lunch purchases when they return to the Academy.

Finally, I have also attached a letter from Bernard Dickenson the Chair of ATT Trustees and Debbie Clinton our CEO.

These are exceedingly difficult times for our Academy community, and I am exceedingly grateful for your ongoing support. Stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ged Rae', with a small flourish at the end.

Mr Ged Rae

Principal