



# Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you on Montgomery Academy's response to the current national situation regarding the Coronavirus and the latest guidance from the government.

The academy's SLT met yesterday to discuss and finalise contingency plans for a possible school closure. The government briefing yesterday makes this increasingly likely. Our priorities are

- Establishing work expectations for students, if they are working from home
- Organising as much paper-based resources for work as we can to give to students in the event of such a decision
- Ensuring that students have the logins to access online learning platforms such as Hegarty Maths, Seneca, Google Classroom and other online resources
- Clarifying lines of communication for the continuation of learning and pastoral issues
  - School or staff message to students
  - Students or Parents to school
- How the school can support our most vulnerable students and families in the event of school closure?
- As we have been for the last 3 weeks, we continue to follow the Department for Education's advice for educational settings.

The current advice states that

"If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or high temperature in an educational setting they should be sent home and advised to follow the staying at home guidance."

If a student complains of a temperature, it is not the school's responsibility to make a judgement on whether they are unwell or not. Parents of students in this situation will be asked to collect their child from school

Also, if a member of the family is experiencing the same symptoms, however mild, they should stay at home for 7 days. If students live in the same household then they are also expected to stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days from the day the first person became ill.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind Year 11 students of this summer's GCSE contingency period. The published date is that all students should be available up to and including Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June this year.

As in my previous letter, please can I stress the need for up to date contact details for all parents and carers. Your son/daughter should have brought a contact details form for you to check. It would help immensely going forward if we had parent/carers' email addresses and if they have downloaded and signed up for the both the Expressions and Class Charts apps. Up to date details will help us communicate with you and help you to support

your child's learning at home as best you can. Students will obviously need to be mature, organised and take responsibility for their learning. We have been speaking to students in assembly this week about this.

#### School over the coming days

At the moment, school is coping with only a few staff absent so until otherwise notified we will be open for all students. Student attendance has fallen over the first few days of this week. If we did have to close for certain year groups, due to a reduced staff, we would prioritise keeping at least Year 11 in school. It is also a possibility over the coming days that we will have to collapse groups. We will continue to keep you up to date as best we can and prepare further for learning to continue at home.

In the meantime, please could you speak to your son/daughter and ask them to confirm that they know their Google Password and logins for Hegarty Maths and Seneca. They will be able to reset these in school over the next few days, if they are having problems.

#### Learning at home

We are currently establishing what the daily expectations will be for students at home in each year group in the event of a school closure. We will circulate this as soon as they have been finalised. I need to make you aware that some of this work could be after a decision to close schools has been made. We will continue to develop our provision for remote learning during any school closure to minimise impact on our students' long-term education.

I realise that these are going to be testing times for us as a school and a nation. We will endeavour to do our best to continue our unwavering support of our Montgomery Family through these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Careless  
Headteacher