

5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following on from further announcements made by the Prime Minister last night, I am writing to inform you of some more important updates and reminders for this half term. Once again, I apologise for the last-minute nature of these changes, but we are responding as quickly as we can to government guidance which is changing frequently at present.

First week back - 5th – 8th January

Students in all year groups will now remain at home until at least February half term break. All students will be set work to complete from today via Show My Homework and mainly students in Years 11 and 13 will also have and some face to face Teams lessons provided. However, this may change even this week as we continually improve our distance learning package and so all students should check Show my Homework and Teams daily.

From 11th January onwards

Students in years 7-11 will be provided with 15 face to face Teams lessons per week. The remaining 10 hours of education will be supplemented by tasks set on Show My Homework.

Students in years 12 and 13 will largely follow their normal timetable with the remaining hours supplemented through Show My Homework. Again, it is vital here that all students check Show my Homework and Teams daily as things are likely to change.

Vulnerable and Key Worker Provision

Students who are vulnerable and the children of key workers will be able to come into school as normal from the 5th January and a timetable with a full curriculum offer will be provided. If you are a key worker who will be working between 5th and February half term and you would like your child to attend, please email sspencer@tscacademy.org.uk as soon as possible. As with before, it is essential that we have this information so that we can put suitable arrangements in place and so that we can follow our safeguarding arrangements should your child not arrive at the Academy when expected.

Covid Testing at the Academy

The mass asymptomatic testing programme we had begun to put in place will now need to be scaled down. We will begin with testing those children who are still attending school (students who are vulnerable and the children of key workers) and those staff who are also attending the site. As explained in the previous letters, please rest assured that full parental consent will be required before any testing takes place with individual students and we expect that this will be done electronically in the next few days.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to free school meals, we will be providing a weekly food parcel. The parcels will be available for collection from the Academy car park daily **between 11am and 1pm** with social distancing in place. If you have any particular difficulties in collecting your parcel please contact us in the usual way so we can discuss alternatives with you. If your child will be attending the Academy through the vulnerable and key worker provision and is entitled to a free school meal, they will be provided with a meal as usual.

Covid Winter Grant Scheme

In November the government introduced a new Covid Winter Grant Scheme which allows local authorities to directly help those families who may need it during the winter period. Please click [here](#) for further information.

If you have any further questions about this or if there is any way we can further support your children or your family, please email enquiries@tscacademy.org.uk.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support in very rapidly changing circumstances. We are doing all we can to keep the Academy community safe and learning and hope that together we can soon start to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa McVeigh', written in a cursive style.

Lisa McVeigh
Principal