

Dear parent/carer

I hope that this letter finds you well as we continue through these uncertain times. Whilst we have all faced many challenges over the past few months, we have endeavoured to continue teaching and learning for our students so that these current times do not limit their future life chances. We have all had to adapt to new ways of living and working and I am sure that we have developed many things that we will take into the future.

Whilst we await a vaccine and hopefully eradicate this terrible virus, we want to make sure that every child has equal access to a high quality learning experience and nobody is left behind. Currently almost all students are accessing the Academy but recognise at times some students will be required to self-isolate.

In light of this we have developed our online learning environment to enable students to access live lessons and resources from home should the need arise. Our view will always be that the very best teaching and learning takes place when students and teachers work face to face in collaboration and we have developed systems to enable this interaction albeit virtually through computers, tablets and smart-phone devices. The following information outlines how this provision can be accessed should your child not be able to attend the Academy through the effects of Covid-19.

The main platform utilised by the Academy to host remote learning is Google Classroom, supported by the full range of G-Suite software, such as Google Slides, Google Docs and Google Meet.

In order to ensure that we support all students appropriately, you will have received a text message this week requesting up-to-date information regarding your family's access to IT devices and the internet. Many thanks for the responses received so far, this is crucial in our planning and facilitation of online learning.

To supplement teaching and learning in the Academy activities are set for students via Google Classroom but we recognise that this may be unfamiliar to some parents and carers. In order to try and support as fully as we can we have launched a new online learning portal, which offers a wealth of information and support. The site offers the facility for downloading the appropriate software and a range of tutorial videos that guides viewers through how to use Google Classroom most effectively and how students can access lessons. In addition, there is a link to the Outwood Home Learning website, where students from all year groups can access additional work and activities. The online learning portal can be accessed via the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/adwick.outwood.com/onlinelearningportal/home>

A useful feature that we would like to draw your attention to is Google Guardian; where parents and carers can sign up to receive summaries of the work completed online by students in Google Classroom. Missed deadlines and late submissions are noted, providing you with a daily summary of the progress of your child. Details on how to subscribe to this can be found on the parent page of the online portal.

We fully appreciate the pressures that the current situation can bring and we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that students can engage in high quality teaching and learning both in the Academy and via our online resources.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy via reception or enquires email on the Academy website.

Yours sincerely

Mr. A Scruby
Principal