

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Following the latest announcement from the government on the COVID-19 outbreak, we regret to inform you that we are obliged to close at the end of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March to most of our students until further notice.

#### **Provision for Children of Key Workers and the Most Vulnerable**

The Academy will remain open from 8.35 to 3.10 for the following students.

- The children of key workers. We are waiting for the Government to make the list available and when they do so we will make it available on our website.
- Those who have an EHCP plan, are in the process of being assessed for one or in our view have a high level of need.
- Students receiving support from a Social Worker or in receipt of support from Children's Services.
- Vulnerable students. If in any doubt, please contact the Academy.

Those students attending do not need to wear uniform.

#### **Public Exams**

It was also announced that public examinations will not take place as planned this summer. We do understand that this may result in some uncertainty for students, but the government has indicated it will ensure children get the qualifications they need. We will seek further information with the exams boards and contact you when we have this.

#### **Free School Meals**

We are planning to continue to offer free school meals to all those who normally receive them. Those students are welcome to attend the Academy between 12.30 and 13.10 to access the meal.

#### **Distance Learning**

- Students and staff will be working from home; work is available for all students on our SharePoint. Completed work can be dropped off at the Academy between 8.35 am and 3.10pm. Work should be labelled with both the student's name and that of the teacher. We will endeavour to mark the work and return to the student by post.

PTO

- To access the work:
  - Visit [keshacademy.com](https://keshacademy.com) and follow the link “**Work for Students**” on the front page; alternatively type in your browser the following address: [bit.ly/keshstudent](https://bit.ly/keshstudent) Either way, this link will take you to an area of our VLE where work is organised by year group and then by subject. To access work, click on the relevant year group and then on a subject. In each folder there is plenty of work and instructions on what to do.  
**No username or password are needed to access this folder.**
- Students in Years 12 and 13 must log into Microsoft Teams to access work during this period. Access to Microsoft Teams requires username and password; this is the same username and password students use to log in any computer whilst at the Academy. They must also check their school account email on a daily basis – teachers will contact them directly.
- GCSE students can also download the GCSEpod app on their portable devices to access GCSE revision material for the exam board they are studying for.
  - Go to: <https://members.gcsepod.com>
  - Click New Here? Get Started!
  - Enter your details
  - You will then be able to create a username and a password (remember these!).
- If a student/parent cannot access the work on SharePoint, they need to contact the Academy at [info@keshacademy.com](mailto:info@keshacademy.com) for help.

I appreciate that these are difficult times for students and families. We want to provide all the support that we can. You will be able to phone the Academy between 8am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. I would ask that you regularly check our website for updates. Can you also please ensure we have the correct contact details, as we will also be using texts to keep in touch?

My very best wishes.

John Allen