

19th March 2020

Dear Parent,

Re: School Closure - Coronavirus

Following the Government's announcement yesterday, the Academy will be **closed from Monday 23rd March, until further notice.**

As part of the announcement, the Secretary of State indicated that schools would remain open to vulnerable pupils and pupils whose parents were key workers. Further, those pupils eligible for free school meals would be able to obtain a meal or food voucher. At present, I am unclear how this will work on a practical level and await further guidance. Should the Academy be unable to meet this provision, Southend Local Authority will work with the DfE's regional teams to ensure an alternative option is available.

Although a re-opening date has not been confirmed, to maintain continuity in education, the Academy has set up the following resources and online learning platforms.

Years 7-10

Pupils should aim to work through the online material accessed via the links below, beginning with the Academy's internal resources and moving onto the other learning platforms.

Google drive internal subject resources and assessments [Key Stage 3](#) and [Key Stage 4](#)

Seneca learning platform - [Seneca Learning](#) (a customised page has been created i.e. no login is required).

Maths at KS3 and KS4 – [Maths Watch](#) and [Method Maths](#)

All subjects - [KS3 BBC Bitesize](#) and [KS4 BBC Bitesize](#)

Year 11

In respect to the 2019/20 cohort, the Government has confirmed that it will **not** go ahead with GCSE external examinations. Further, the Government has stated that it will work with the Education sector and examinations regulator (Ofqual) to ensure pupils get the 'qualifications they need'. At present, I am unclear how this will work and await further guidance.

I will aim to keep you updated regarding any changes and/or further information in respect to the above.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. N. Houchen
Principal