

17th March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

You will be aware that the coronavirus outbreak is providing significant challenges for all sectors of society. The position for schools and academies is that the government has decided that they should try to stay open at this time. As a public servant I feel it is my duty to try to follow government policy. Moreover, I am particularly concerned that our Y11 & Y13 pupils are facing examinations in the near future and, as things stand, the official position is that these exams are going ahead as planned. It would be a dereliction of my duty towards our students if we were to close the academy regardless of that fact.

However, on Friday 20th March, we will be closing the academy to all students except those that have exams on that day. This will allow us to undertake a deep clean of all areas of the academy and provide staff with an opportunity to put together online resources for all students to work on if they are absent or if we are directed to close the academy in the future. At this stage we expect to be open as normal for all year groups on Monday 23rd March.

If you or a family member develop symptoms of the coronavirus, which are a high temperature or a persistent cough, the advice is for self-isolation to take place. Therefore, if a pupil/student is absent due to self-isolation we will, of course, authorise that absence. The government's advice on this can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>

Thank you for your support at this difficult time. We will do our best to keep you updated if the situation changes by email and via our website on the important notices page, which can be found here: <https://www.boa-academy.co.uk/news/?pid=57&nid=4>

Yours sincerely



John Reilly
Principal