



**Central Academy**

The best in everyone

Part of United Learning

CSB/LFA

19<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Temporary Closure of Central Academy**

As you will be aware, the Government has announced that all schools in England will close temporarily for the vast majority of children from end of the day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

This decision has been taken on the advice of medical and scientific experts in order to manage the spread of COVID-19 and relieve pressure on the health system.

From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, students' education will continue from home.

By the end of this week we will send you specific details of how this will operate. We have prepared well for these circumstances so that all our students can continue their education from home during the closure. I am extremely grateful to staff across the Academy for the way in which they have taken on this challenge.

The Academy will, however, remain open for two specific groups of students:

- Those whose parents are defined as key workers (employed in the NHS, emergency services or elements of the food supply chain);
- Those who are particularly vulnerable.

I would ask that parents who believe they fall into the category of key workers contact the school as soon as possible and no later than 12 noon on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March via email at [info@rrca.org.uk](mailto:info@rrca.org.uk) so that we can arrange for your child to continue to attend school.

We will be identifying those students who are in the second category and will be contacting their parents and carers separately. If you believe your child falls into this latter category and you have not heard from us by 9am on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March please contact us on the above email address.



**Principal:** Miss C Bacon

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The Government has also decided that no external exams will take place this academic year. Over the coming days, they will announce plans for how those due to sit them this year will be able to gain their qualifications. I know how important this will be for our older students and we will be ensuring that whatever is put in place can be implemented through the school in a way that does not penalise any of our students' places at university or 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

It may be that teacher assessments and predicted grades will be at the heart of the system this year. If so, it is possible that we will need to justify our assessed grades using students' work on paper and in books. For students in Years 11 and 13, therefore, while preparation for traditional exams will not be the focus, we are likely still to want to work intensively with them in the coming weeks so that whatever is ultimately assessed for qualifications is representative of each student's best ability.

Over the next few days we will be in a position to update you further and provide additional information on ways we will be able to support your child during this time. In particular we will be finalising how we can ensure that students on Free School Meals will receive entitlement to food. We will be doing everything we can to deliver whatever is required of us by Government.

We are entering times of further uncertainty, speculation and concern and our responsibility as a school, like yours as a parent, is to give our young people the learning, support and reassurance that they will need in the coming weeks.

We will continue to update parents on a regular basis with important information as we receive it. We will continue to communicate with you by email but please do regularly check on the school's website.

Thank you for your continued support and for working with us in the weeks ahead.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'C Bacon', with a stylized flourish above the name.

**Miss C Bacon**  
**Principal**