



# Kingswinford Academy

**A part of Windsor Academy Trust**

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Company registration no: 07523436  
Place of registration: England

Our Ref: TM/TM  
KFA/KFA COVID Response/TMA Letters

5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Information following Prime Ministerial Announcement

Following the announcement last night from Boris Johnson, we have rapidly made adjustments to our provision to ensure that all of our students can access a high quality education and effective safeguarding and support as rapidly as possible during this new period of 'lockdown'.

### Online Learning

From today online learning provision is being provided for all students, for all lessons via Google Classroom and the G-Suite online learning platforms wherever possible. A significant proportion of those lessons are taking place as 'live lessons' with teachers actively teaching students during the lesson. We continue to follow the full school timetable for subject lessons each day for all subjects and students.

Furthermore, from tomorrow we will be asking staff to be available during a 'Form time' from 9.00am each morning for their Form group to check in with their students and offer some practical and pastoral support within their Form's Google Classroom. We strongly encourage you to ask your child to log onto Google Classroom by 9.00am each morning to start their learning day and engage with their form tutor. As time progresses, we expect more and more of our lessons to be broadcast live to students. Please note that students should only access our live lessons and online learning using their school email address in accordance with the Remote Learning Agreement sent yesterday.

We are using ClassCharts to monitor student engagement in their learning activities - and you will soon be able to view the engagement of your child through this invaluable app on your personal device. However, please be aware that we are still in a process of adjusting and perfecting the language and methodology of this reporting approach. If you have questions regarding the ClassCharts app, please email the school at our usual email address with the subject heading 'ClassCharts'.

If you would like to know more about our online learning approaches or if you are having difficulty with the online learning, please visit our dedicated support website which can be found via our website, the Windsor Academy Trust website, or at the following web address:

[bit.ly/WATOnlineLearning](http://bit.ly/WATOnlineLearning)

Alternatively students can contact their teacher, form tutor or Head of Year directly via email, or you may contact the school at the [info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](mailto:info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk) email address with the subject heading 'Online Learning'. You can, of course, call the school between 9.00am and 3.00pm on 01384 296596.



## **Year 11 Examinations**

As announced by the Prime Minister on Monday, “exams will not go ahead as normal” this summer. As soon as we receive more details we will keep year 11 students and parents fully informed. However, it is also implied from his announcement that Ofqual will be seeking an alternative methodology of assessment. For this reason it is essential that Year 11 students maintain their studies and engage in their remote learning as planned for every lesson, every day. We are currently still planning to conduct further mock examinations or other assessments after half term (or when students are able to return) as part of the suite of assessments that schools use to evaluate student performance, alongside our staff’s personal understanding of student circumstances and individual capabilities.

## **Free School Meals**

Parents of students who are eligible for Free School Meals should have been contacted regarding the ‘Wonde’ voucher system. We are providing £15 vouchers each week to support food provision for students in need. This provision is subject to change in line with National guidance and approaches, however we are committed at Kingswinford Academy to ensuring that there is food provision in some format for all eligible Free School Meal students throughout this lockdown period. If you have questions regarding this provision please contact the school via the [info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](mailto:info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk) email address with the subject heading ‘FSM’ or ‘Free School Meals’.

## **Calendar Events**

Please note that we will be reviewing and adjusting our calendar in response to the current situation and may cancel, defer or rearrange all events during the lockdown period. I am conscious that we had scheduled a Year 8 Parents’ Evening next week and, whilst we are keen to offer a Parents’ Evening for year 8 as soon as possible, we may not be able to adjust our planning in time for this event. Please be on the lookout for specific updates regarding this evening (and any other events).

## **COVID-19 Testing**

We are continuing to develop a testing programme for students which we expect to offer to all students when the lockdown ends, pending further government guidance. In due course we expect this will be offered to those students attending our emergency provision for Vulnerable Children and Children of Critical Workers on a voluntary basis. We will not be, at this stage, inviting students who are not in attendance to come to the school for testing until further guidance is offered by the government.

## **Safeguarding and Student Welfare**

We retain student welfare and safeguarding as our highest priority during this challenging time. If you have any concerns or need support in any way for your child through this difficult time, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s Form Tutor, Head of Year, our SENCO or Deputy Headteacher Mrs Fletcher via the school email address or by telephone to discuss your concerns. You can also visit our website for more information or other contact details.

Thank you all so much for your kind support and positive feedback, this is a difficult time for our staff and students and your kind words do mean so much to my team and I. Do take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Tom Macdonald  
Headteacher