

18 March 2020

Dear parents/carers

**RE: Partial Closure to Year 8 and Year 9 Pupils  
Thursday 19 March – Monday 20 April 2020**

As you will no doubt be aware, the Government has made several announcements in relation to measures to prevent the further spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The health and safety of our pupils, staff and the wider school community is, as always, our number one priority. As you know, we have been closely following all Government guidance relating to the virus. We have also taken all the necessary precautions since the national outbreak to prevent it from impacting our Academy and to keep pupils safe. There are no confirmed cases of any student or member of staff at the academy contracting Covid-19.

Whilst the Government has not announced the widespread closure of schools, unfortunately, the cumulative impact of the current measures has led to increased levels of staff absence.

Therefore, we have reluctantly taken the decision to temporarily close the Academy to pupils in Year 8 and Year 9. This partial closure has become necessary, as we do not have the appropriate staffing levels to continue to deliver the provision we normally offer across the whole school.

We ask that pupils in **Year 8 and Year 9** do not come to school from **Thursday 19 March 2020** until **Monday 20 April 2020** and, instead, remain at home. As you will note, this period includes the Easter holiday which will run from Monday 6 April until Monday 20 April.

We currently remain open to Year 7, Year 10, Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils even if they have siblings affected by this partial closure. We will keep you updated should this change.

Whilst we understand that this is likely to cause disruption for you and your family, we have robust plans in place so that your child can continue their education during this time. As always, we are committed to ensuring that our pupils receive the best possible education and will be working hard to minimise the impact of the closure on your child's education.

To access information on what work to do, pupils will need to access 'Airhead' using any internet connected device and follow these steps: /Cont'd....

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- We strive to fulfil everyone's learning potential. • We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve.
  - We provide a safe, kind, nurturing and inclusive environment. • We enjoy the journey together.



1. Open a web browser on any internet connected device, eg Google
2. Type in the address: gat.airhead.io
3. Sign in using their usual academy email address and password.
4. Open Teams
5. Visit the channel for their year group in the Community team

More specific work for a particular subject and their particular class will be added to their Teams class area by their teacher.

Through Airhead, they can also access email, Word, Class Notebooks, PowerPoint and Excel, as well as all their existing documents via OneDrive.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation.

Yours faithfully



**Mr D Tungate**  
**Principal**

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