



LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY

Dear Parent

I am writing to outline how work will be set in the event of the school closing.

Staff have been working extremely hard to prepare for a school closure. Work will be set for all pupils in years 7-13 either through email or Microsoft teams. We have already been explaining to pupils how to access work and our expectations.

The feedback we have received from other nations already in a position where schools are closed, is that it's best if students work to the principle of 'following their regular timetable' (i.e. 5 one-hour lessons per day) and our system has been set up to replicate that. I fully appreciate that this may not be possible but aiming to stick to something which has the semblance of normality is a good principle.

Even though the instruction/guidance for students will be electronic, there will be a mixture of activities. We recognise that not all students have access to electronic devices, and these resources may come under pressure, in a situation where all members of the family are at home. We are therefore providing hard-copy 'work packs' for children who might be in particular need where possible.

Pupils could read regularly, complete key words and definitions for subjects, prepare revision resources for work already completed, take part in physical activity and research tasks.

Setting of work – years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

In light of yesterday's announcement regarding exams we are asking staff to continue setting lessons for year 11 and 13 until we have further guidance on how pupils will receive grades.

Work will follow the normal timetable allocation as closely as possible. This could be either a lesson per session or an extended project that is equivalent to the normal teaching time of that class.

Every two weeks a review or assessment will be completed for pupils to return to their teacher. Where possible work should be emailed back to the subject teacher and they will write a written response on a two-week basis.

For the older year groups pupils and staff may use Microsoft teams, we have instructed staff and pupils to disable the camera and pupils should not record staff and share on social media. If pupils do put material on platforms such as snap chat etc. they could face consequences when they return to school.



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Operational Principal: Mr G Pearson
Vice Principal: Miss S Hesten

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Setting of work – years 7, 8 and 9

Work will be sent by email (paper packs have been given to some pupils without internet access)

Teachers will outline their expectations of how long the work should take, when it should be completed and how to submit.

Teachers will set one task per subject per week.

Pupils should keep electronic copies of their work for when they return to school, we do not expect pupils to print work off.

Contact with school

I am conscious that I have focused a lot on curriculum here but I know for many children the SEN and/or pastoral support we provide at school is crucial to their own learning and wellbeing.

The pastoral team will be in contact with identified pupils but if you need to speak to them please email either the Head of Year or pastoral assistant. We were pleased to hear that the government 'has a plan' for children who are entitled to free school meals and we will certainly be doing all we can to make sure systems providing this access are in place.

Please be aware that staff will try to respond to all emails but this may not always be possible.

I know you would wish to join me in thanking the staff for all they continue to do, both in keeping the school running and in preparation for any future closure. They are showing remarkable commitment in a situation that none of us are familiar with. We are asking a huge amount of them at the moment.

We will be sending further information regarding school opening for vulnerable/key workers once we have received guidance from the Government.

Yours faithfully,

Sophie Hesten
Vice Principal



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