



6th November, 2020

Dear parents and carers

I am writing to update you following the recent government decision to nationally lock down but keep educational establishments open.

I am pleased that the government have decided that education is a priority and that we will continue to have all students in school on a full-time basis. However, we are all aware of the increased need to keep everyone safe and healthy and try to limit the rate of transmission in the academy. Please can I ask you to support the academy by discussing with your child/children the following:

Masks

All students must bring two masks to school to ensure that they have access to one at all times. These must be worn on both on the journey to and from school if they are using public transport and in our communal areas. Although masks are not compulsory in lessons, if your child wants to wear one they can do so as long as it is worn properly at all times. Students can buy masks in school from Ms Sparrowhawk.

Arrangements at the end of the day

Due to lockdown it is important that all students leave the site quickly, clearing the vicinity and travel straight home. Students should not be gathering around the local shops and takeaways that remain open as this is not compliant with the rules of lockdown. Staff will be on duty in the local area and students must follow their direction.

Given the current high level of infection we will be putting in additional measures to keep students and teachers safe such as more deep cleans, additional handwashing facilities and wipes in the classrooms.

Parents on site

We now have to further restrict the number of adults that we have on site apart from staff. All parental meetings will be conducted remotely for the duration of the lockdown unless it is imperative that we see you in person. Please do not attempt to come on site at any time without prior agreement with a member of the senior team.





School closure and remote learning

As you will be aware from my last letter we have been planning for all eventualities and the four-tiered response to school closure can be found in the COVID section of the website. One of these tiers of response is for the academy to move to a rota system whereby rota A will attend one week and rota B the second week. Whilst we hope that we do not need to activate this, it is best to be prepared and we will shortly be notifying you which rota your child/children have been allocated to. In as many cases as possible we have tried to keep siblings on the same side of the rota, however, on the occasions where this has not been possible we will be offering to supervise siblings in school if you are unable to have them at home. In addition to this, if we do have to resort to some form of remote learning we will be sending out a form. Please complete this if you wish to apply for a place at community classrooms as either a vulnerable student or the child of a keyworker.

If we find ourselves in a position where students are having to learn at home, it is our intention to teach some lessons live through MS Teams. Yesterday we sent you details of a 'Digital Home Learning Workshop'. This will be an online workshop designed to give you some more information about how we are using Microsoft Teams for your child's learning at home this year.

The event will cover:

- What Teams is being used for
- Our expectations for students' use of Teams
- How you can support your child with Teams at home

There will also be time at the end of the session for Questions & Answers.

The event will take place virtually, also using Microsoft Teams, on Wednesday 11th November. The KS3 parent workshop will be at 5pm-5.45pm. The KS4 and KS5 parent workshop will be at 5.45pm-6.30pm.

In order to attend this virtual event, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the sign up form

Finally, this is a difficult time for many, especially with regards to finances. Please ensure that you keep us informed of any changes to your circumstances so that we can let you know if your family is eligible for free school meals. In addition to this we have been liaising with the local community and would like to share with you some of the provision available in the borough free of charge. The collection and delivery of these food supplies are all within government guidelines and all establishments are COVID safe. All food boxes provide supplies for 5-7 days and are a mixture of essential and non-essential goods.

Regenerate UK is a Roehampton based charity providing food boxes to families in need. The box will need to be collected from the Ashburton Youth Centre, Westleigh Ave, London SW15 6XD on a Friday afternoon between 2pm-4pm.

Vineyard Church are offering the same provision. These boxes can be collected from The Yard, 401-403 Tildsley Road on Wednesday 10:30-12:30 and Sunday 2pm-4pm.

Wandsworth Foodbank Please look at the following website to see how to seek help via the Wandsworth foodbank. All food is being delivered due to the pandemic. <https://wandsworth.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/>



Please e-mail l.mcmillan@arkputneyacademy.org if you would like some support over the coming months or have any questions regarding the options available to support you and your family.

I hope that you and your families remain safe at this difficult time.

Kind regards

Ms A Downey
PRINCIPAL

Ark Putney Academy
Preparing every student to be a pillar in any community