



## COVID-19 - School Closure Update Information

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Yesterday we emailed parents and carers with a detailed update on the steps we have taken and were planning to take in response to COVID-19 and based on government advice. Within this update we announced that we would be asking students in Year 12 to work from home as of 3pm today and from next week would be looking to introduce a phased partial closure plan for other year groups, due to current absence levels. However, following the subsequent government announcement we wanted to ensure that we provided all parents/carers with a further update as soon as possible today.

### School Closure

Following the government press conference yesterday evening, which announced that UK schools would close from this Friday, **Hinckley Academy and John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre will now close from 3pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March until further notice.** In line with additional guidelines we will remain open to support the following groups of students:

- Students with a current educational health care plan (EHCP)
- Students in Years 7 and 8 whose parents are defined as key workers
- Students with a designated social worker

For these students the school will be open between the hours of 8:20am-3pm each day. Upon arrival all students will need to register in the Library.

All other students will be expected to work from home using the materials supplied online.

Due to planned essential health and safety works, we do not intend to be open during the Easter holidays. Should this situation change we will let you know via the usual communication channels.

### Identifying Year 7 and 8 Children of Key Workers

It is now vital that we know which of our students in Years 7 and 8 have a parent/carers who is a key worker, to ensure we can make arrangements for the students who will continue to study at the Academy during the closure period.

A child of a key worker is defined as a student who has a parent or carer within the below sectors/job roles:

- NHS Staff
- Police Service
- Fire Service
- Care Workers
- Supermarket Delivery Drivers

Please note that the above list is subject to change and we do expect the government to make amendments.



If you are a key worker whose child is currently in Year 7 or 8, please contact the academy to provide the following information:

- Student Name
- Which days they will be attending during the next two weeks
- Whether they ordinarily access the school mini buses
- Whether they will require food from the canteen

Please email Azizah Pathan [apathan@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:apathan@hajc.leics.sch.uk) using the subject 'Key Worker'.

## Public Exams

The government yesterday announced that exams due to take place in May and June were now cancelled due to COVID-19. We understand that this information is worrying for students and their families and would have come as a shock. Today all Year 11, 12 and 13 students were encouraged to keep working and continuing their education. As we receive further guidance and information on this we will keep you updated and will of course do all that we can to ensure our students receive the recognition they rightly deserve for their hard work and determination.

## Providing School Work During Prolonged Absences

As outlined in yesterday's email, all teachers in all subjects have now uploaded resources to FireFly/other online portals and/or have created paper resources to enable all students at home to be able to continue to study. By 3pm today, all students should be able to access resources to work from home if required. To support our students and parents/carers we have attached additional information on how to access FireFly and our other online systems to this email. All students have been shown how to access these during lessons today.

If students, parents or carers experience any technical issues or have any questions, please contact our IT team directly: [itservices@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:itservices@hajc.leics.sch.uk)

If you do not have access to the internet at home or to a suitable device, please contact your child's Pastoral Leader by 3pm tomorrow.

## Safeguarding and Student Wellbeing

We understand that this is a very anxious time for children and their families. I would like to reassure you that our staff will be available during the closure period should you feel you need support or advice. We have taken measures to ensure that those children and their families who may require extra support are contacted regularly by relevant members of staff. However, should you wish to get in contact with them directly you can do so via email or school mobile during the hours of 8:30am-4pm.

**SEND (Special Educational Needs)** - Jo Mungovan [JMungovan@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:JMungovan@hajc.leics.sch.uk) / 07377879090

**Safeguarding** – Dawn Guzzetta [DGUZZETTA@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:DGUZZETTA@hajc.leics.sch.uk) / 07377880664

**Pupil Premium/Free School Meals** – Graeme Price [GPrice@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:GPrice@hajc.leics.sch.uk) / 07950700356



## Other Helpful Contacts

**Childline** 080011111

**Police and Non-emergency** 101

**Police Emergency** 999

**NHS** 111

**Text a public health nurse (school nurse) Leicester** 07523 615386

**Text a Young Minds Crisis Messenger**, for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis. Text YM to 85258

## Free School Meals

For families in receipt of free school meals, school will be open from 10:30am – 11:30am each day for students to collect a packed lunch. We will also have key staff available to offer advice on any work or to share any concerns. We are working with our caterers to provide this service until a wider national voucher system is in place.

Thank you for your continued support at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Cahill

Principal

[rcahill@hajc.leics.sch.uk](mailto:rcahill@hajc.leics.sch.uk)