



The Albion Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Thursday 5th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 9 pupils,

Covid-19 Update & Temporary Changes to School Routine

I wanted to thank everyone across the school community – pupils, staff, parents and families– for the ways in which they have taken on board the changes we made over the summer so that the school could safely re-open for the new academic year way back in September.

Each day it is an absolute pleasure to see our pupils enjoying their learning, engaging with their teachers and friends and building on what they learnt at home during the spring and summer terms.

As you will know, the North West is currently coping with a higher number of Covid cases than many other parts of the country. As of last night, the entire country has been placed into another lockdown which we hope will be lifted early in December. Within the school community, we have a number of students and staff who have contracted the virus outside of school or are currently self-isolating at home as a precaution because they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive.

There is no evidence that anyone has caught the virus at school and, whenever a case has emerged, we have been following Public Health England's (PHE) direct advice and guidance.

The number of positive cases occurring within our community and the number of staff having needing to self-isolate and work from home has grown this week and continues to rise. We have therefore taken the decision, with the direction of PHE and guidance from the Local Authority, to alter our school routine and attendance until case numbers return to more manageable levels. This is not a decision we have taken lightly nor one that we wish to keep in place for longer than the bare minimum.

Therefore, from tomorrow, Friday 6th November, we will be operating a reduced school week for Year 9 which affects this week only in the first instance. So to be absolutely clear, we are asking that all **Year 9** pupils work from home for **Friday 6th only**.

We will set work for Year 9 via TEAMS which will be a reflection of the broad and balanced curriculum they would usually receive whilst on site.

We expect **Year 9 to return as normal on Monday 9th November** and should we still be in a situation where staffing levels in the school are problematic, we will rota between Years 7 – 10 so that not one year group is disadvantaged overall compared to others.

Tomorrow, Year 9 will be expected to continue with their learning at home and I am grateful to parents for your ongoing support in ensuring your child engages with this learning.

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Thank you for your co-operation as we introduce these temporary changes. Despite Covid-19, the new academic year at The Albion Academy has begun very well and we are determined not to allow the pace and energy of the school to be disrupted by these temporary alterations.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Roberts
Headteacher

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