



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish you all a very happy new year and despite the challenges that we currently face, I am hopeful that as the year progresses, we can, in time, get back to some type of normal. Please rest assured that, as we deal with the current issues, our staff will continue to give their very best to support your child.

Last week I shared with you where we believed we were at that time and what was likely to occur this week. As you are probably aware, all pupils (other than children of Key workers and those deemed vulnerable) will be off site and offered remote learning provision which we aim to have in place from Tuesday 5th January.

Year Group	Provision for 5 th – 8 th January 2021	Where?
11	Online learning mirroring their timetable	MS Teams – links sent out to pupils
10	Online learning covering the curriculum	MS Teams – links sent out to pupils
9	Online learning covering the curriculum	MS Teams – links sent out to pupils
8	Online learning covering the curriculum	MS Teams – links sent out to pupils
7	Online learning covering the curriculum	MS Teams – links sent out to pupils

Over the course of this week we will share with you what school and learning looks like from Monday 11th January. As you have probably seen, things around education are moving quickly and I am unable at this time to give you concrete information about the future. For those Year 11's specifically who have Btec/external examinations, these will take place and we will contact these pupils individually about arrangements for them.

You can find our live lesson timetable [here http://www.albionacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Website-page.pdf](http://www.albionacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Website-page.pdf) . This [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7g6XKSt9f8) video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7g6XKSt9f8>) talks you through how to join a live lesson, we also have our Covid19 section on the school website with 'how to guides'. If you need to contact us during this time please use the following email addresses for parents' use Parenthelp@albionacademy.co.uk and for students' use StudentHelp@albionacademy.co.uk

For those families that have chosen to use the key worker provision we would still point towards current guidance which is to only send them to school if you have no other option. If your child is attending, please send them with their chromebook if they have one.

During Lockdown 1 there was sometimes a national issue with Microsoft Teams, often due to massive increase in usage. Therefore, if you are experiencing problems logging-in to Microsoft Teams or other Microsoft products, ie it says 'product deactivated', please do not use your desk top version. Instead, use Chrome or the latest version of internet explorer and log in to your Office 365 account and use the Web apps instead.

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Alongside providing remote education, we are also being asked by the Government to plan and implement asymptomatic mass testing of staff and pupils beginning next week, currently. This is not a simple thing to have in place, given the notice periods schools have been given. It is highly likely that we will look to implement this trialling with specific year groups so that we can make this as efficient as possible. We estimate that we need between 11 and 14 staff to facilitate this when it is fully operational. Therefore, should any member of our community be able to offer their time (additional checks may be required) then please email us at contact@albionacademy.co.uk with the title 'mass testing volunteer' with any availability. We will also shortly send out details about consent which we are aiming to do electronically.

Finally, I am very much aware of the stress and strain all this uncertainty is causing for parents, carers, pupils and staff. We are trying to do the very best we can in the most challenging and extraordinary of circumstances that we find ourselves. It is likely that plans may change and may change quickly with little notice over the coming days. All we as a school can do is plan based on what we know and then re-plan based on what changes. As ever, thank you so much for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Roberts -Headteacher

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