

Friday 20 March 2020

School Closure information for parent/carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm sure you appreciate the challenges to our country caused by the spread of the Coronavirus. This brings with it associated challenges to the education system and the daily care of your young people. I am sure you have seen the letter from Dr Campbell, our Trust CEO <https://www.brookewestontrust.org/coronavirus> and I echo his sentiment about the Trust and Kettering Science Academy supporting our community to tackle the Coronavirus.

I would like to pledge my support to all our students and families at this difficult time with regard to the continued education of our young people. As such, in this letter I will outline the plan of support that we can provide for the foreseeable future.

I would particularly like to mention my best regards and thoughts for our Year 11 and 13 students who, after a very hardworking year have had the unfortunate news that their exams have been cancelled. Having shed a tear for these students myself I would like to assure both students and families that we will work alongside the Trust and the wider education community as well as the Government to ensure that all students receive the grades that they deserve for the futures that they have planned. After all, they are still Kettering Science Academy students and we care deeply for them.

As you know, from Monday the school will be closed for all students other than those who are deemed as having parents that are key workers. To support students working from home we have provided paper workbooks which they will bring home from school today, if your child has not been in school on Friday these workbooks will be made available for collection from the school reception during normal working hours. For those of you with access to the internet and computer working facilities at home my staff are uploading work to the Microsoft Teams portal which will be constantly updated.

For guidelines on our expectations for students working from home please go to the following link:

<http://www.ketteringscienceacademy.org/site/data/files/users/21/files/95650DE4077615DB1A234834E7F7039F.pdf>

For a user guide to the Microsoft Teams portal please see the following link:

<http://www.ketteringscienceacademy.org/site/data/files/users/21/files/B6C3E9A8A8084ABCF7DD7AC2ECFB611.pdf>

I will be using our website as a main source of reference and I would urge you to check the Working from Home page in the Pupils section of our website which contains many important links and facts:



<http://www.ketteringscienceacademy.org/page/?title=Pupils&pid=112>.

I would urge you to help support your young person in completing the work as it is important to maintain as much continuity in their education as possible.

For those parents who fall into the category of **both** being key workers or children with Education Health Care Plans, children who have a contact Social Worker, those on the Child Protection Register and any Children in Care (LAC) as defined in Dr Campbell's letter, I would like to say that if you are unable to safeguard your young person at home following Government guidelines we will provide a care service under the following conditions:

1. Until further notice school will be open for students between 08.40 and 15.00 hours.
2. Students do not need to wear uniform and food will be provided but they must bring their ID cards and sign-in upon arrival
3. My expectations of these students when they are in school is to follow a modified school day, to undertake in the studies and work set and to follow our standard routines for learning and behaviour.
4. If they are entitled to school transport the local authority will be running the buses as usual for the time being.

If students are entitled to free school meals we will provide these in the form of a packed lunch which can be collected from school reception on a daily basis between the hours of 12.00-13.00. Clearly, the students who are already in school and eligible for free school meals will be catered for.

I do realise that this is a very difficult time for us all and I do appreciate your support over this extended period of time and I sincerely hope that Kettering Science Academy will be able to get back to normal as soon as possible. Things are changing on a daily basis so I please urge you to keep an eye on our website and provided links so that we can work together to get through this difficult time as smoothly as possible.

I hope you all stay safe and well in this current climate and I look forward to continuing in supporting you child's education throughout this time.

Yours sincerely



Tony Segalini
Principal

