



5 February 2021

Dear Parent

TCA update letter – 5 February 2021

I hope you and your families are keeping well. As we reach the penultimate week of this half term I write to give you an update. Please take the time to read this with your child as it contains important information.

Year 8 Parents' and Options Evening

Details of the online Year 8 Parents' Evening (16 March 2021) and Options Evening (25 March 2021) will be communicated shortly. Please add these dates to your diary.

Term dates

We follow the Nottinghamshire County Council holiday pattern. A copy of the term dates for 2021-2022 is available as on our website here: [Term Dates \(theacademycarlton.org.uk\)](http://theacademycarlton.org.uk). Our INSET days for the next academic year will be determined and published in March. Students will return to school on Wednesday 1 September 2021.

Remote learning

Our expectations of conduct in live lessons are the same as when students are physically in school. With our move to more interactive lessons, students have access to more functions such as microphones being enabled and a chat function to feedback to teachers and teachers to students. These features have been enabled to provide a richer learning experience that will benefit all staff and students. Since this was enabled earlier this week, there have been a small number of isolated incidents of unacceptable behaviour that have been dealt with individually.

Students will be reminded of expectations at the start of every lesson. Should students not meet our expectations, they will be removed from lessons and you will be informed of this, should there be any repeat of issues then we will remove your child from all live lessons and provide a range of printed work packs for them to do at home. This will significantly reduce the quality of their experience and have a detrimental effect on their achievement. I have attached a copy of our expectations slide to this letter along with our remote learning roles and responsibilities document. We ask that you discuss this with your child.

From Tuesday 9 February students will continue to access their lessons via their Teams calendar (or Teams Channels). In addition, staff will demonstrate how to submit work through individual student channels and Assignments during lessons. 'How to guides' can also be found on our YouTube channel [here](#).

PSHE

PSHE sessions will continue every Tuesday at 11am. All students are expected to attend each week and the session will be posted in their Teams calendar. Next week's theme is on Motivation, one important life skill. The sense of motivation is the key to various achievements through life. It involves working towards goals and helps drive creativity and curiosity as well as building determination, perseverance and resilience. Following the February half term break, our PSHE programme will focus on aspirations and career choices. We will be looking at strengths, interests, qualities and skills, and how these relate to future successes and



career pathways. Whole school assemblies are Wednesday at 11am and a link to these will be in students' Teams calendars.

Virtual Opportunities Programme

Thank you for taking the time to fill in an expression of interest form for our virtual opportunities offer. We will be starting with a selection of opportunities week commencing 22 February 2021, from a live cook along session, to performing arts events and a health and fitness programme, with a training challenge from couch to 2.5k. These opportunities will be available to all year groups, with sessions accessible via the students' Teams calendar.

Informing us of student absence and school response to low attendance to lessons

Attendance and engagement continue to be very good. If your child is not able to access lessons due to absence, please inform us as per the normal attendance processes. We continue to track attendance to lessons on a lesson by lesson basis. Parents will be messaged if their child does not engage in lessons and further non-attendance will result in phone calls and subsequent home visits as needed. It is an expectation that all students engage in learning every day. Should you have any issues with regards to devices or internet access please contact the school and we will do our best to support you.

Free school meals and vouchers

Students in all years who are in receipt of free school meals have now been sent the latest Tesco voucher. This covers the period 8 February to 5 March 2021.

Testing

Information regarding Testing can be found on the front of our website and the current testing arrangements for those attending the critical worker provision continue. As a reminder, please do ensure that you have completed the consent form on our website if you wish your child to be tested, if this becomes available to them. It is vital that you do not send students into school if they have any symptoms of COVID-19 or are in a contact of anyone who has tested positive.

Thank you for your ongoing support,



Ms Egwuma
Head of School