

24th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Daily Update – 24th March 2020

We write to you on another unprecedented day in our history as the country has moved into a 'lockdown' status to limit the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Staff are working hard remotely to set work and engage with students where possible as we get used to a very different way of working and living.

Provision for Vulnerable Students and the Children of Key Workers

As you know, the Academy closed on Friday 20th March to all students and staff. However, since Monday 23rd March, we have opened with a reduced provision for vulnerable students and the children of key workers. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, we believe that the best place for your child is at home where they can practise social distancing and we would like to thank those parents who initially put their children forward for this reduced provision but have since found alternative ways of allowing their children to remain at home.

The Academy remains committed to supporting key workers on the frontline; however, the provision at the Academy no longer appears to be necessary. For this reason, and to safeguard the welfare of the staff who are still travelling into work, the reduced access of the Academy will be suspended until further notice.

At the close of play today, Tuesday 24th March, the Academy will close and not re-open until it is appropriate to do so. We will move to a fully remote and off site way of working where students can still engage in their education from home.

Ongoing Communication

If you need to contact the Academy throughout this period of closure, we recommend doing so by email to solihull.info@wmgacademy.org.uk. Telephone messages will still be routinely monitored, however you will receive a response far sooner via email communications.

GCSE and A-Level Updates

Additionally, over the last 48 hours, we have continued to receive various enquiries from students and parents regarding the cancellation of the summer exams. Whilst the Government have begun to release guidance on how grades will be awarded, we still do not have enough information from the awarding bodies in order to share with you how this process will work in its entirety. We know that this is a worrying and anxious time for both parents and students and we will continue to monitor the situation and update you accordingly.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Students currently in receipt of free school meals who will require this support throughout the closure should please let us know by emailing finance@wmgacademy.org.uk and we will arrange to reimburse you directly with the daily allowance. Please include in your email the student name, bank sort code

WMG Academy for Young Engineers, Chelmsley Road, Chelmsley Wood, B37 5FD

and account number. The Government are working on a national approach to provide support though the provision of supermarket vouchers.

In the meantime, please do all you can to keep yourselves, your families and your loved ones safe and please continue to make contact with the Academy if there is anything further we can do to support you at this time.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs K Tague
Executive Principal



Mr S Tait
Associate Principal