



## **HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS**

16<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well during this time. At least the weather has been kind these last few weeks. Whilst I understand that we cannot go outside properly to appreciate it is at least a little easier to sit and look out at blue skies rather than rain. This is only a short message to cover two areas:

### **1. Continued operating of Bristol Metropolitan Academy for students of key workers and other designated students.**

As you know from my previous communication, we were asked to collapse down the running of Bristol Met's provision to join with Bristol Brunel and City Academy to form an 'East Central Bristol' Hub. The rationale for this was to reduce numbers of staff having to continue to travel to places of work. Although overall teacher level remains, by opening fewer buildings we reduce site team, cleaners, catering staff and other ancillary staff. We have been asked to continue with this arrangement for the foreseeable future as it has worked well over the last 10 days with around the same number of Bristol Met students accessing the provision as we were before we moved. If your child therefore needs to use the provision on any day until further notice please ensure they are at City Academy, Russell Town Avenue, from 8:30am to 3:15pm.

### **2. News reports giving mixed messages around the re-opening of schools.**

I, as much as all of the community, want the community of Bristol Met to be back, as one, in the Bristol Met building as soon as possible. However, it would of course be foolish to want that sooner than is sensible based on the best evidence available. At the minute there are a number of different news reports, from different credible sources, which seem to fluctuate between schools reopening 'imminently' right through to them not reopening until October which is causing a great deal of anxiety and confusion across the country amongst everyone. The only sources that will be worth truly listening to will ultimately be direct communication from us, as once we are given the all clear to reopen it will be for each Academy to work out the finer detail for making that happen in as reasonable a timescale as possible. This communication will come immediately following any verified communication to us from the Government or the Department for Education. Any other reports are merely speculation or educated modelling/guesswork and I would urge you to treat them with caution.

As I said at the start of this letter, there are 'blue skies' out there and we hope more to come. In particular we have a few of our own which we hope to share with you soon (a little cryptic, but it will make sense soon). Until then take care of yourselves and your wider family and if there is anything we can try to do to support during these difficult times please do contact your child's tutor or house team and we will endeavour to do what we can.

Yours faithfully,

Cameron Shaw  
Principal  
Bristol Metropolitan Academy

