



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I wanted to thank you for your continued support and understanding in this unprecedented global time. We are continuing to operate a full academy with a normal timetable as currently have a manageable number of staff away from work. Of course this is a fluid situation and we will of course keep students and parents updated as regularly as possible.

I spoke to students at length yesterday around the coronavirus pandemic. There is, understandably, much intrigue as well as anxiety among our young people. The same is true for us as the adults which is why it is critical we continue to work together to try and help young people navigate at this difficult time. I plan on sending a more detailed update this afternoon with regards our continued contingency planning and what our feeling is around school closures (which we are trying to avoid for as long as possible in line with government guidance).

As part of that planning we are asking all parents/carers to give us, in confidence, information relating to their occupation. The government are keen to ensure that schools play the part they can in ensuring that keyworker staff are supported for as long as possible to allow wider key society functions to continue at this time. Therefore, if you are a keyworker and you feel that, if/when schools are forced to close you would have no option but to stay off work to provide childcare, we would be grateful if you could complete this attached form for **every** child that you have in Bristol Met (I am sorry this duplicates the form for you but it only requires very limited information, should take 30 seconds per child but is the simplest way of us collating and adding to our action planning at this time).

[THIS IS THE FORM](#)

In terms of definition of keyworkers we have used government guidance to come up with this list currently:

- clinical staff employed by the NHS;
- teachers, including further education teachers and Early Years/nursery teachers;
- police officers and community support officers in specified forces;
- frontline police staff (civilians) may also be eligible in some areas;
- prison officers and some Prison Service staff in prisons in specified areas;
- probation officers;
- local authority (LA) or NHS social workers;
- uniformed staff in fire and rescue services;
- armed forces personnel;
- Highway Agency traffic officer staff;
- LA environmental health officers/practitioners.

We absolutely appreciate that every job role is vital in one way or another for a "normal" operation in society. However, we have used guidance to try and focus on roles which are seen as key to operation of society in *abnormal* times.

With regards for work for students off school; we are working on online learning platforms which will allow delivery of daily scheduled lessons to students in the event we are forced/directed to close. As I am sure you can imagine, this is going to take time for us to get fully functioning but staff are working on this already with the expectation that by the end of next week we would have a robust online learning platform up and running and initially resourced.





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At the moment we are having to continue to do our daily jobs of providing a full provision to students attending so cannot actively provide personalised work for students currently unwell or having to stay at home. We would be grateful if requests for work for any student staying at home is **not** made at this time to allow staff to focus on preparation of resources and plans rather than field requests.

We have been collating links to multiple online learning platforms over the last two weeks and this will be shared with parents today (and emailed directly to students who we have been asking for a week to ensure they can access their O365 Met account). We are also producing physical packs of work with the intention of having these available to take away as soon as they are produced. We will also share a file of what work has been provided to each year group so you, as parents, can see what your children have.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Cameron Shaw
Principal