

03 April 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Online learning**

In our first week of 'Virtual Oasis MediaCity' my teaching colleagues have been focussing on ensuring a sound curriculum, which although it cannot replace the school experience can carry the students forward in a different way, and as we have seen in recent times school is much more than simply knowledge transfer, it is about learning for life. I'm sure you will join me in thanking all staff at Oasis MediaCityUK for their dedication to this new way of teaching.

I recognise the frustration for a small number of families who have not been able to access online lessons and we will continue to work with those families individually to ensure all our children are able to participate in our online learning provision.

Please can I remind parents and carers that additional learning resources, links and Easter activities can be found on our website.

### **Mental wellbeing:**

With Covid-19 we are all experiencing a new and challenging event and so it is now more than ever of vital importance that we maintain our mental health and wellbeing. Over the last two weeks Pastoral Leaders have been incredibly busy making welfare calls to all our students and families. It has been heart-warming to hear from students and in particular how they have been organising their days and coping with this 'new normal'. If you are concerned about mental wellbeing then please see our website where a number of resources and useful numbers have been added to support you during this time.

### **Free School Meals:**

The government announced how free school meal vouchers will be distributed this week. Behind the scenes at Oasis MediaCityUK colleagues have been very busy ensuring this system is in place. Vouchers will be sent via email to parents/carers so please ensure an email address if on file for your child as this will be the most effective way of receiving the voucher. If you have any questions relating to free school meals please leave a message on 0161 886 6500 and a member of staff will respond as soon as possible.

### **Childcare provision**

Week commencing 20 April 2020 we will open the academy for the purpose of providing childcare for key workers/support for our vulnerable children. If parents/carers are key workers and need a childcare place please contact the academy and let us know.

### **Year 11**

This afternoon Ofqual has released a statement regarding awarding of grades for GCSE students this



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For more information about the Academy, please follow this QR link

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summer, I include a link for you here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcses-as-and-a-level-awarding-summer-2020>. We will now look in detail at this information in order to best support our Year 11 students. Please can I ask that students do not contact their teachers regarding grades at this time as we are not permitted to discuss them but I must reassure you that we will do our best for the students. As always, I will write again when I have more detail to share.

Finally, I want to thank all parents and carers for their continued support during these uncertain times and wish you all a safe and Happy Easter. Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you need to.

With kind regards,

Mrs M Dillon  
Principal



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