

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Please see my update below

### Latest Government Message:

On Wednesday the Prime Minister announced that schools would not re-open fully after the February half term and that he hoped they would start to re-open from 8th March. As yet I do not have any further detail about this but will ensure I update you as soon as I know more.

### Covid 19 and Testing

This week marked a sombre milestone as the number of deaths across the country passed 100,000. I am sure like myself you have reflected on this statistic with a heavy heart and it acted again as a reminder to us all of the need to follow the Government rules during the national lockdown. If you have suffered a bereavement or have been severely impacted due to Covid-19 please know that we are here to support you in any way.

I am pleased to inform you that we have started lateral flow testing of staff and those students currently in the academy that wished to be tested. All tests have returned a negative result. This added safety measure allows us to mitigate the risk of contracting the coronavirus further and so I would encourage parents who have not yet signed the consent form to do so.

### Online learning and attendance

I know it has been a difficult time for parents and children at the moment, especially when trying to juggle home learning with all your other commitments. We really do appreciate your support in ensuring your child is accessing their lessons and thank you to all parents who have sent in messages of thanks to the staff.

Every lesson, every day we are tracking online attendance and engagement. Our Pastoral Team will call home to support you if your child has missed a lesson. In addition, if you are experiencing technical difficulties please contact the academy on 0161 8866500 for help.

I must stress however the importance of encouraging your child to attend all lessons, this will ensure they continue with their learning and will be better prepared once schools fully reopen.

I have also had the opportunity this week to watch some wonderful lessons being delivered, as part of Holocaust Memorial Day a Holocaust survivor shared her experiences with Year 9 students. This was incredibly moving and maturely received by the students. We have also had a brilliant careers talk during art, product design, textiles and photography lessons from Andy Breese the Head of Design a London based advertising agency.



Principal - Marie Dillon

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

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## Children's Mental Health Week 1st-7th February

Next week is Children's Mental Health week and we have planned a number of activities to promote this important area. Lessons will have a mental health focus in addition to 'Mental Wellbeing Hour' and assemblies next week will be led by our fantastic Student Leaders looking at how to thrive during lockdown.

We have also developed a virtual 'Feelings inbox' on the school website to allow students and parents to share how they are feeling so please do look at the website for this.

If your child is struggling with the current Covid school closure please contact the academy on 0161 8866500 and a member of the Wellbeing Team will be in touch

## My Child At School App (MCAS)

Our new MCAS App is now up-and-running, thank you to all parents who have downloaded this App. All user names and passwords have been emailed to all parent/carers, however if you haven't received one please contact the school on [info@oasismediacityuk.org](mailto:info@oasismediacityuk.org) to ensure we have the correct email details for you.

## Video Update:

This week Mr Chambers will be providing a short video update so please do look out for this.

As always, thank you for your trust and support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Dillon



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