

31st December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, I do hope that you and your family have been able to enjoy the Christmas Holidays despite the restrictions.

It is with a feeling of sadness that I write this to you. As you may have heard, yesterday the government announced that in order to help contain the community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), some restrictions to primary education settings are required in certain areas. Hounslow is one of these areas.

As a consequence, *Oriel Academy* will not be able to reopen to the majority of children, as planned on 5th January. We are anticipating being able to welcome all children back on 18th January, the government is keeping this date under review and we will inform you as soon as we know further details. We will also keep our website updated with any information about the date of reopening.

From the 5th January, Oriel academy will remain open to provide care for the **children of key workers and for vulnerable children only**, which includes those children who have a social worker or an Education Health Care Plan. For these children the school day will start and finish at exactly the same times as now. There will be no after school clubs or *wrap around care except for breakfast clubs which will operate from 8.30 a.m.*

If you work in any of the following jobs you are classified as a key worker:

- NHS staff
- Police
- Supermarket delivery drivers
- Supermarket staff
- Pharmacy staff
- Fire service
- Armed services
- Teachers and other school staff

A full list can be found [here](#).

If this applies to you and you want your child to be cared for at school please let us know by Monday 4th January at midday by emailing principal@oriel-aspirations.org stating the name and class of your child/children.

If your child is classed as a vulnerable child they should also continue to attend the academy as normal.

For all other children whose parents are not classified as key workers or are not vulnerable children, the academy is closed until 18th January.

During this period, teachers will be setting appropriate work which must be completed by your child each day on the Google Classroom. If you have any queries/questions on this please email office@oriel-aspirations.org and we will be pleased to assist you through the process.

Our expectations of students are that they should complete all of the work set by their teachers and should aim to work from home during normal school hours.

If your child receives Free School Meals these will still be available in the form of a food parcel. More information on these food parcels will be made available no later than Monday 4th January 2021.

Even during a period of school closure, our primary concern is the safety of our pupils. We have identified Mr. Lancy as a trained member of staff who has been designated to maintain regular contact with families where there are specific pupil needs. The contact telephone number is **07437 474 268**.

We would urge you to follow the latest government advice regarding the virus, which can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

We continue to wish you and your families well during this very challenging time and look forward to seeing you all again later in January.

I wish all of you a very Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs E A Linney
Principal