



Joseph Leckie Academy

5th February 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians/Carers

I wanted to update on the position for schools following February half term. As it currently stands, as you will have heard in the news, the Government and Department for Education have said that it will not be possible to resume face to face learning immediately after February half term and they will review the safe return of schools when more data on the infection rate is available but it hopes to commence the reopening of schools from Monday 8th March at the earliest. However, we will not know until after half term whether all students will return or if not which years and specific dates as the government continues to review the data available. Therefore I will advise you when we know more information.

The Academy is closed for half term on Friday 12th February at 3.05pm and re-open open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers from Monday 22nd February.

Remote learning for all other students will recommence from Monday 22nd February and students will continue with their remote and on-line learning until we receive further confirmation of a return date.

All students will continue to learn remotely until we receive updated guidance from the Government

It is still vitally important that students **in all years** are engaging with their lessons, completing coursework and homework as well as revising and preparing for exams and assessments in their subjects when they do return. Students **MUST** make sure that they are pushing themselves towards achieving the best possible grades **in all subjects and in all years**.

Students should be following their normal timetabled lessons and we ask you to please reinforce this with your children and ensure that they start lessons promptly in the morning. If students have any questions or issues regarding their subject studies, please ask them to contact their subject teachers who are best served to help them stay on track.

Remote Learning:

From the start of Lockdown all students were provided with remote learning and on-line lessons and/or resources. They were and still are expected to complete the work set online or work that was sent in the post.

We have been delivering lesson material by a variety of methods so that your child should be able to access work on tablets, phones, Lap Tops as well including the use of SharePoint and tasks set via Ruler and emailed documents as well as Teams lessons. In addition, some subjects may send links to other on-line materials for activities for students to do within their timetabled lessons via email and Ruler or through the post.

Students have been expected to complete all work set and engage with their learning. As stated in my letters, reinforced by teachers and a number of interventions from pastoral and support staff through their regular communications, students have been reminded constantly how important it is to engage in lessons or activities set and complete their work and students have been offered support to do this where needed.

Joseph Leckie Academy

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We will be assessing your child's progress (in all years) when they return to school in order to consolidate learning and set "catch up" work for students who have missed work or not understood this. However, we will not be repeating all the work that they have had during lockdown. Therefore, where students have missed work and they have fallen behind, for whatever reason, they would then have chance to re-do work as part of their homework, attend the library after school, can access delivered sessions/work on-line and/or attend additional sessions which may run after school, at weekends or in the holidays. This will give them every opportunity to catch up on their learning. We may have to reset groups from September, but we hope that students will have had chance to catch up with additional sessions and homework activities. Thus it is important that they do keep on top of their work currently or if they have missed some then they do some catching up over half term.

Some reminders:

- Students in years 11 and 13 will almost certainly have assessments and exams (internal and possibly some externally set) when they return. We will know more on this after half term once we receive the guidance from Ofqual and the Department for Education and will inform parents and students what to expect. However, it is vital that they follow the advice given in my email and letter from 8th January and continue to access lessons and complete tasks so that you are ready for any assessments/examinations on their return.
- If your child has any technical issues (including forgotten passwords) they should contact: JLAITSupport@josephleackieacademy.co.uk
- On-line information is available from [Joseph Leackie Academy - Online Working From Home](#)
- On-line resources available from [Joseph Leackie Academy - Remote Learning Resources](#)
- If they are not sure about any of their work in a particular subject, it is essential they contact their teacher via their email address or via the Teams lesson or their tutor or Head of Year.
- We have been checking that your child has accessed work during this period and various forms of assessments, which they have been asked to complete to demonstrate their understanding.
- Teachers and Pastoral staff have been contacting you and /or your child to support where they have fallen behind or need help. It is important that when teachers, tutors or other support staff contact you or your child by email that they do reply to these so that we know your child is safe and they respond to questions regarding any work they are not accessing so that we can support them.
- We strongly advise you support them in returning any work they produce, this can be uploaded via Ruler, email or bring into the Academy the following week. Guidance is available within the [Student Noticeboard](#) on how to do this.
- Your child should expect to receive activities or work from all of their subjects.

Further details for parents and guides for students are also available on our website:

<https://www.josephleackieacademy.co.uk/RLinfo>

Please note that if you have your child has had a positive test, regardless if they have been on site or not, **and during half term**, you must still notify the Academy via postbox@josephleackieacademy.co.uk

Free School Meal Vouchers: Parents/Carers of students who are eligible for free school meals who have been receiving vouchers will not get them over half term, but this will resume after half term until students are expected to return to the classroom.

May I thank everyone for your ongoing understanding and support of your child during remote learning as we appreciate how hard this is during these difficult times.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued support.

Please note the changes to the Academy day on the page below.



Rachel Cook
Acting Principal

REMINDER CHANGE IN ACADEMY DAY from the date when we do return after half term.

Please see below for information on the amended **change to the Academy day** which will come into effect **after we return after half term 2021** as stated in my letter on 9th December. This will mean a slight change to the end of the Academy day. This change will not affect the hours of education that your child receives whilst still allowing us to maintain the high safety measures we have implemented for COVID to keep child safe, as long as they follow all the protocols in the Academy. If you have any questions about the change, please do contact us via the academy postbox and we will get back to you.

The Academy Day and Break and Lunchtime Bells from return after Lockdown 2021

8.30 am	Entry for Students through the designated entrance.
8.40 am	Morning Registration and/or Assembly (in forms currently)
8.55 am	Bell (5 min movement)
9.00 am	Period 1
10.00 am	Period 2
11.00 am	Break
11.10 am	Warning Bell
11.15 am	Period 3
12.15 pm	Lesson 4 for Years 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 and afternoon registration Lunch for Year 8 and 10 (Year 8 canteen - Year 10 West Hall)
12.45pm	Lesson 4 for Years 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and afternoon registration Lunch for Years 7 and 9 (Y9 West Hall – Y7 canteen)
13.15pm	Lesson 4 for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and afternoon registration Lunch for Years 11, 12 and 13 (Year 11 West Hall - Y12/13 canteen)
13.45pm	Bell (5 minute movement)
13.50pm	Lesson 5
14.50pm	End of School