

Dudley Academies Trust

Executive offices, Dudley College of Technology
Priory Villa, 3 Ednam Road, Dudley, West
Midlands, DY1 1HL

Chair of Board of Trustees: Lowell Williams

Chief Executive: Jo Higgins



07/01/21

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Trust forward planning

Firstly, I would like to wish you and your families a happy new year. I hope you managed to enjoy the Christmas holiday and that you are all well.

This is undoubtedly a very difficult and challenging time as we all contemplate the third lockdown period. However, the prospect of the vaccine for all adults provides a much needed beacon of hope for us all.

Now, more than ever our learners and our staff are benefitting from the close, supportive community of Dudley Academies Trust, where our number one priority is the health, safety and wellbeing of every individual.

Please be aware of the following steps we are taking to ensure that our current provision is as effective as possible:

- As per my letter dated 31/12/20, key workers' children are able to attend their academy. The link to each academy Microsoft Forms for key workers can be found at the end of this letter, including Blowers Green Primary for completeness.
- Additional safeguarding measures are in place to reduce the level of risk. Most notably, all secondary learners and staff are required to wear a mask/face covering at all times. Desks are also placed at a two metre distance in all classrooms.
- The parents/carers of vulnerable learners for both primary and secondary have been contacted and informed that their child can attend their academy if this support is required.
- Distance learning will be a vehicle for our education delivery and will be available to learners in all year groups from w/c 11/01/21.
- From 05/01/21, distance learning was available for Year 11 and Year 7 to 10 learners were able to access to Hegarty mathematics and Bedrock vocabulary learning platforms.
- As per the recent secondary Principal letter dated 05/01/21, examination preparation sessions would continue as previously planned.
- The Trust's guidance on secondary distance learning is currently under development and this should be available on each academy's website in the w/c 11/01/21. This guidance will detail the Trust's method of tracking learners' levels of engagement and what actions will be taken if there are any concerns about this.



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- Please support your child to fully engage with distance learning and to meet all requirements of them as we must ensure that all learners continue to make progress. For learners in Year 11 this is absolutely critical as the work they produce is likely to form an evidence base for awarding their final examination grades this summer. As soon as we know the government's approach to this, we will confirm what this means for our learners and how you can support them.

Please do encourage your child to fully engage with their academy's distance learning programme. Should you have any queries, please contact the below academy email.

Academy	Key Workers	Email
Blowers Green	BGP Microsoft Forms	info@blowers.dudley.sch.uk
Beacon Hill	BHA Microsoft Forms	helpline@beaconhillacademy.org.uk
Pegasus	PA Microsoft Forms	office@pegasusacademy.org.uk
St James	SJA Microsoft Forms	safeguarding-help@stjamesacademy.org.uk
The Link	TLA Microsoft Forms	info@thelinkacademy.org.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support and please stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Jo Higgins
Chief Executive



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