



Beamont Collegiate  
Academy

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Principal: Mr G Harris BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

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05 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm sure the Prime Minister's decision last night to close schools has left many of us feeling frustrated and disillusioned. As it currently stands, there is no plan for students to return to school until Monday 22 February at the earliest. However, we will await further guidance and confirmation on this over the course of the next few weeks.

I fully appreciate that the decision to close schools will have left you and your children feeling anxious and worried about the next few weeks but also about what this means for the rest of the school year. I will try to address these concerns below.

### Remote and Online Learning

As I write this I know online lessons are already underway and I have witnessed first hand students working with their teachers in their virtual Google Classrooms which is really pleasing to see. Teachers have been planning and training for this eventuality so I am confident they will continue to provide a good quality of education for your child. Google Classroom is the online platform we will be using, as we did in the Spring and Summer terms, to continue to deliver lessons. Students should follow their daily timetable as if in school where teachers will be available in their Google Classroom. Teachers will also be following their daily timetable and will be available to offer instruction, guidance and feedback.

### Laptops and Google Classroom.

Over the course of the last two days we have been resourcing some families with laptops and Chromebooks for students to use if they do not have a device at home or if they are sharing a device with siblings or parents working from home. If any parents would like us to provide a device so their child can fully access our online teaching and lessons then please email; [ictsupport@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:ictsupport@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

We will arrange a time for you to collect or we will deliver it to your home. Also, you should use the email address above should you need support with Google Classroom usernames and passwords.

### Attendance

As with normal day to day school it essential that you support, encourage and perhaps more than ever celebrate your child's work. **Our aim is simple: to continue to provide students with the highest quality remote and online education so that they return to school not having fallen behind.** We need your support to do this. Please ensure your child follows their daily timetable and completes all the work set. Parents/carers of students that we identify not engaging with lessons will be contacted so that we can support with attendance and engagement.

### Children of Key Workers

We will continue to offer provision for the children of keyworkers. Parents and carers of keyworker children have already been identified to us and they have begun attending school today. For us to continue to operate safely we are offering these children a weekly Covid-19 test so that we can identify asymptomatic positive cases and take appropriate next steps. Assistant Principal, Mrs Rixham has



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written to our keyworker parents and carers advising them how they give us consent to test their child each week.

### Well Being and Student Welfare

To support student well-being and welfare we have maintained our email addresses direct to the Progress Leader for your child's year group. If you need support, help or guidance no matter what the issue please contact your child's Progress Leader on the appropriate email below:

[Askyear7@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:Askyear7@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

(Mrs Robertson)

[Askyear8@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:Askyear8@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

(Mr McLoughlin)

[Askyear9@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:Askyear9@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

(Miss Coley)

[Askyear10@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:Askyear10@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

(Mr Gillespie)

[Askyear11@bca.warrington.ac.uk](mailto:Askyear11@bca.warrington.ac.uk)

(Mrs Thomas)

### Students in Year 11

Undoubtedly, students and their parents/carers will be particularly anxious about the situation regarding the planned 2021 GCSEs. At the moment we have had no further detail other than what was announced last night stating that exams "would not go ahead as normal". I am expecting further details from both the exam regulator, OfQUAL, and the Department for Education in the near future. We have received early indications that exams for some of our vocational qualifications will go ahead. Again, the details are vague on this. However should this be the case it will affect students studying engineering, hospitality and ICT. Once I have further details on both of these issues I will update you.

It is important that students in Year 11 understand that they will continue to be taught and assessed in preparation for GCSEs. If GCSEs exams do not go ahead as planned students will still need to be able to evidence the quality of their school work and also how they perform in school based assessments including any pre-public exams they have sat. Further to this it is morally incumbent on us as a school to ensure our Year 11 students leave us with the depth of knowledge and range of skills that will allow them to succeed in college and into adult life. It is essential that we work in partnership to communicate to our Year 11 students a consistent message so that they maintain a level of engagement that will result in an excellent set of results and ensure their futures are not defined by Covid-19.

Finally, it feels like I have thanked you many times over the last year for your support. However, it is worth emphasising how important it is to have your support at this time but also to have your feedback on how we are working and what we might need to improve. To gather parental feedback we will be sending out a survey once we have completed ten days of remote online learning so you have the opportunity to let us know how you feel we are doing from a parents' perspective. In the meantime, I'll look forward to updating you again soon.

Best wishes and the best of health.

Yours faithfully



**Mr G Harris**  
Principal



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