

Plympton Academy

Moorland Road, Plympton, Plymouth, PL7 2RS

Principal: Ms Lisa Boorman

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Email: enquiries@plympton.academy

www.plympton.academy



Ref: LBO/TOV

30th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have all had a good holiday/break despite the oddities that the virus has imposed and that you find yourselves in good health going into the new year.

I am sure you are aware that there are ongoing reviews of the opening of schools, by the government, and the information below may still change before the start of term. I urge you to check your emails again just to make sure this information remains as stated and I will endeavour to keep you up to date with developments as soon as I am made aware. This letter is based on information from the announcement from Gavin Williamson, the Education Secretary, on 30th December 2020.

Return of students

Week beginning 4th January 2021

The academy will not be open to students this week unless your child has an EHCP, additional support required, as agreed with our SENCO/Pastoral team, are looked after or in care, who are in assisted housing, or whose parents are key workers. In order for us to staff this provision please ensure you have emailed the Academy on enquiries@plympton.academy by 12pm on Monday 4th January to secure a place for your son/daughter. This provision will follow the times of the normal Academy day and students will need to be in Academy uniform and have all necessary equipment. There will be no PE lessons during this week. Students who are remaining at home during the week beginning the 4th January, in Y7-Y11 are expected to undertake the remote learning. Please note that the expectations are quite different to the previous remote learning that was undertaken and we appreciate the support in ensuring your child completes the required work:

- Students will follow their normal Academy timetable (Week A)
- Teachers will upload pre-recorded lessons to the class' Google Classroom by 8.40 each day. These lessons will be placed in the 'Remote Teaching' topic folder.
- Lessons will be one hour in length and can be accessed on any device that can access Google Classroom, but students will benefit from larger screens.
- Students are to complete all work in their Homework exercise book, unless the teacher states otherwise.
- Each lesson, students will be told what equipment is necessary for the completion of work. Please



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ensure that this equipment is available (it will be the equipment that students are expected to bring into school each day).

Students in Y12 and Y13 will have live lessons, please make yourself aware of the behaviour policy regarding online lessons, this can be found on the Academy website.

We are aware of a Y11 BTEC music exam on Thursday 7th January and a Y12 Health and Social care exam on Friday 8th January - these exams will take place and students should carry on preparing for them. Further information regarding attendance and location of exams will be communicated early next week.

Week beginning 11th January 2021

The Academy will be open to all year 11 and year 13 students from the 11th January. Students should attend wearing the standard Academy uniform, where appropriate; there will be no active sports lessons that week, as per the guidance provided to schools. Students will follow their normal timetable and will therefore need all the necessary equipment for these lessons. This week is Week B.

Students in year 12 who study Health and Social Care, BTEC Science and/or BTEC Performing Arts will need to attend the Academy for those lessons only in preparation for their January exams. The study room will only be available for Y12 students where they have two lessons in one day. All other Y12 students should return home to continue with their remote learning.

Students in Y7-10 will continue to have remote learning, however, some of their lesson time will also be live with their teacher. More details will follow next week.

The Academy will continue to be open to those students who have an EHCP, additional support required, as agreed with our SENCO/Pastoral team, are looked after or in care, who are in assisted housing, or whose parents are key workers.

Week beginning 18th January 2021

All students will return to school full time.

Free School Meals

Throughout the period of partial opening we will continue to support those students who are entitled to free school meals through the distribution of vouchers. These will be sent to your current email address that we have on the system. Any concerns with this please email finance@plympton.academy in the first instance.

NHS Covid-19 testing for students

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using a new, quicker COVID-19 test known as 'lateral flow tests'. Along with other protective measures, this should help staff and students to remain in the Academy safely. By testing we will help stop the virus spread and help to keep our Academy open as safely as possible. Please note that the test is voluntary for all members of the staff body and student body.

We will be testing all staff and students, who want to participate, from the week commencing 11 January 2021. An instructional leaflet will be available on the Academy website.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and will involve a quick and easy swab of the nose and throat. Results will take about 30 mins and will be shared directly with staff and students participating. Where participants are under the age of 16, their parent or legal guardian will also be informed. Further information will follow next week and be available on the academy website.

Can I take this opportunity to thank the parents and members of the Academy community who have already volunteered to support the Schools covid testing programme; if you would like to get involved with this please email our HR department using the email address warrenc@plympton.academy

I appreciate that this has been late news and I thank you for your patience and understanding. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the academy on enquiries@plympton.academy which is being monitored during the Christmas break. I am sure there will be a few teething problems, please work with us to ensure that we are able to provide a quality first remote learning experience for your child.

I wish you all a very happy new year and look forward to welcoming all of our students back to the Academy in the very near future.

Warm regards



Ms L Boorman
Principal

Key Contact information - within 24 hours response time:

Questions about the remote learning	remotelearninghelpdesk@plympton.academy
Free school meal vouchers	finance@plympton.academy
Key worker place	enquiries@plympton.academy
All other enquiries	enquiries@plympton.academy