

4th January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

As I am sure you are aware, the Prime Minister has announced a further lockdown in England and, regrettably, the closure of all schools from tomorrow (Tuesday 5 January) until February Half Term, except to vulnerable children and those of key workers.

As we were already expecting to provide remote learning for the first part of the term, your child should be aware of the arrangements for accessing their education online, beginning promptly at 0830 on Tuesday 5th January. However, should you need more information about accessing Microsoft Teams or to borrow a device, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy Reception, weekdays between 0800 and 1600.

We have worked hard to refine our remote learning offer, based on our experience of the first lockdown and over the past term, and your child's education will be as close to in-person learning as possible. It will include Personal Development sessions, assemblies as well as a full timetable of subject specific sessions. Please [see the Academy website](#) or our Piota Schools App for further details.

I appreciate that this is an anxious time for all families and particularly those expecting to take exams in the summer. In his address, the Prime Minister said that not all exams would go ahead, and that the Department for Education would work with the exams regulator, Ofqual, to make alternative arrangements. While we do not yet know what these arrangements will include, please be assured that – as was the case last year - we will work tirelessly to make sure Jewellery Quarter Academy students are as well supported as possible. We look forward to the forthcoming virtual Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 14th January.

I understand the disruption and stress this will cause and would like to take this opportunity to thank you, once again, for your support over the coming difficult weeks. Naturally, we will be in touch when further information becomes available.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. G. Williams

Headteacher