



LINCOLN
A PRIORY ACADEMY

February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of our third module I am writing to give you an update about the current situation as far as we understand it.

Hopefully as each week passes we are moving in the right direction, towards a point when life might return to somewhere near normal. We welcome the Chief Medical Officer's announcement that we are past the peak of the latest wave of the pandemic. At the time of writing, over twelve million COVID vaccinations have been administered. Of course, such confirmation is accompanied by sadness for those whose lives the pandemic has claimed – including Captain Sir Tom Moore.

As you are no doubt aware the government has said it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half term. The earliest date envisaged for this is Monday 8th March 2021. Clearly this potential reopening date is dependent upon a number of factors and we await the Government's decisions towards the end of February. We have been informed that we will be given at least two weeks' notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education and will be in contact as soon as a date is confirmed.

There are a number of vulnerable children and children of critical workers in the Academy at the moment and for these pupils we will close as usual over February half term. Home learning provision will also cease during this week. If students wish, they can take part in a number of activities through our enrichment page on SharePoint and of course continue to work towards their Home Learning Lincoln Baccalaureate.

During half term, we will continue to provide vouchers for students eligible for Free School Meals. If eligible you will receive your voucher on Friday 12th February.

All examination year groups have already been contacted with details about the current situation and I urge you to make sure your child/ren follows the advice given in order to help us to secure the grades that are deserved.

We continue to use lateral flow tests to identify cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst staff and students who are in the Academy and have plans to extend this to all staff and students when we re-open fully.

I would like say thank you for your support and engagement during the first module of 2021. Amidst difficult circumstances we have all made huge progress with remote learning. We have received a lot of

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positive feedback about the introduction of live lessons and our own pre-recorded lessons . Research in this area strongly suggests that it is the quality of what is being taught during remote learning, rather than how it is being delivered, that is most important to students successfully continuing their education at home. We have taken care to ensure the right balance with our remote provision, with a focus on providing high quality lessons which support students active engagement in the learning.

I am really proud that so many students have been consistently displaying our Lincoln Attitudes of WORKING HARD, DREAMING BIG, BEING KIND, KEEPING GOING and BEING PROUD. We have been delighted to see the increased engagement in remote learning this module. The vast majority of students have engaged fully with our provision. Many students have enjoyed collecting our 'working hard at home' incentive points with over two hundred students accruing over 2000 points. As we are anticipating a return to the Academy next term, we will be returning to our existing reward system, whilst still acknowledging remote learning efforts. Students will be rewarded through stars of the lesson, great days and golden weeks. This will ensure all students, whether working at home or within the academy have the same opportunity to gain rewards aligned with the Lincoln Academy's attitudes.

Please continue to help with encouragement, organisation and where possible a calm and quiet working area. Engagement in learning continues to be monitored through Classcharts, and we recommend that parents download this App and use it to monitor which lessons that their child has engaged with. The launch of our Home Achiever Lincoln Bacalaureate Award should also help with motivation on those more challenging days.

Take care and stay safe,

Richard Trow
Headteacher