



Wigston Academy

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Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope that this letter finds you, your families and loved one safe and well.

This term has been one of the strangest and most challenging ever not only for our staff and students but for the whole community. A further local lockdown is also a source of frustration and disappointment.

During this period of time we have worked tirelessly to try to ensure that we provide education and wellbeing support for our nursery and school communities. Our teachers have been setting, assessing and feeding back on work for our current students through online materials and virtual lessons. We have also provided paper resources to support those who cannot access IT. We have continued to keep in touch through weekly bulletins, video clips and regular updates and we know that you have found these useful and thank you for the positive feedback we have had.

Although we have not been allowed to meet our new Year 7 students in person our Induction Team have been busy developing new ways to ensure the transition to the Academy is as smooth as possible. A dedicated Facebook page has provided not only information but also activities for students to complete. We have been incredibly impressed by the engagement of our new students as they have designed VE day pendants, completed bake off challenges and sent in perspective photographs, to list just a few.

We have also been working closely with our prospective Year 12 students. They have been accessing our transition work and Transition Work Plus on the Wigston College webpage and Mr Ashton and Mrs Rose have been sending them key information in preparation for 6th form studies. Our schools webpages contain lots more helpful information including video introductions, key letters and information.

We have kept our doors open for keyworker students and those classed as vulnerable, not only in term time but also throughout the Easter holidays, Half term and Bank holidays. Teachers and Teaching Assistants have kept those students safe, engaged and entertained.

Teachers and staff have completed the processes of in school assessed grades for the College and Academy, these are now with the Exam Boards. They send them off to Ofqual who will review them against the national data and decide final grades. We are still working on the planning for results day as we desperately want to do this face to face, we are awaiting guidance, but we feel it is essential that we see our students to congratulate, support and advise them on their next steps. The confirmed dates are for Year 13 Thursday 13th August and for Year 11 Thursday 20th August. We will be in touch nearer to the time when we have clear guidance from the government.

We have really enjoyed seeing our Year 10 students back in school over the last few weeks, they have been able to discuss their progress and concerns with their tutors and pastoral staff. They have received some face to face teaching in English, Maths and Science, many have also received subject specific options sessions as well. We have been impressed by their positive approach and behaviour all of which will stand them in good stead for next year.

Year 12s also returned to the College and have accessed wellbeing support and a blended programme of learning including face to face sessions and virtual lessons. It has been great to see them around the building again and we look forward to their successes next year.

It was with a very heavy heart that we had to close to these students and to those in Year 9 whom we had arranged to meet, due to the announcement of the local Leicester lockdown. The lockdown has also forced us to cancel our plans for a summer activities school as the guidance has been clear that we cannot go ahead with this.

Despite being able to see many of our students we have been disappointed that strict government quotas and guidelines have not enabled us to see them all. Although frustrated by this we recognise that the guidance was clear and did not allow us to have any more students into our buildings. We have however continued to talk to them and their parents via tutor phone calls.


I cannot begin to explain our disappointment in not finishing the year as we would usually with our Year 11 and 13 students. We have been unable to see them through their exams, reward them at our prize events and celebrate their time with us at their prom and last fling. I have written to these students, personally and have explained that we continue to hold out hope that we can come together at a later date. I wish them every success for their futures and remind them that we are still here to help and support them whether that be an apprenticeship, job, university or just chat to see how they are doing.

Currently we are unable to share the details for the start of the new academic year as we still await government guidance. However please can I reassure you that we have already begun to plan sessions to support students in their reintroduction to school life involving sessions on their wellbeing and getting them back on track and catching up. We will share more detailed plans including dates and times as soon as we know.

In conclusion despite the difficulties and challenges that we have faced during this term, I have been heartened by the commitment of our staff, the positivity of our students and the support of our wider community.

I wish you a very healthy and happy summer.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Wilson
Headteacher
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