19 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 11: Covid-19 – Academy Closure

You will have heard the news last night that, from Friday of this week (for the vast majority of students), schools will be closed until further notice. You will have also heard that GCSE examinations will not go ahead this year. We want to reassure you that it is only the exams that will not take place – something which we had anticipated, but please be confident that students will be awarded qualifications that will enable them to progress to the next stage of their education. The Department of Education have reassured us that the system will be fair and open to appeal.

We want to reassure you that it is only the school building that is closed and that we will continue to provide resources and structure for learning. We would encourage all students to continue focusing on the work and revision provided at least until there is clarity around how qualifications will be awarded. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Last night's announcement was obviously driven by urgency – the need to act quickly to an unprecedented situation – and, as such, more detail will follow. Please trust that we will work with the Department for Education to ensure all our students receive fair recognition for their hard work.

As always at Dixons Cottingley, we are a team and we will get through this, together with the support of our wonderful families and we will be in touch with you regularly throughout this time. The most efficient form of contact is likely to be email and via our website. Please also be aware that you may receive calls from academy staff on 'no caller ID' numbers. Please can you direct any questions you may have to the following email address during any academy closure and we will aim to respond to you as quickly as possible.

General queries - info@dixonsco.com
Safeguarding queries - safeguarding@dixonsco.com

We will be in contact as soon as we have more information to share.

Yours faithfully

Jason Patterson
Principal