



# Padgate Academy

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Principal: Mrs M Barclay BSc (Hons) NPQH

Our ref: MBA/MSI

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to provide an update with regard to the COVID-19 outbreak and to alert you to some steps we have taken and decisions we have made today.

Firstly, I realise that these are very worrying times for us all and the steps we need to take and decisions being placed on everyone are unprecedented. School leaders are facing a very challenging time, with daily updates to guidance and decisions required which place a significant burden on people. None of the decisions that I take over the coming days and weeks are ones which I take lightly;

I do have to inform you that we have already hit the number of teaching staff absent which means we will need to move to a position of partial school closure, this is to ensure the safety of all students and staff. I therefore regret to inform you that as of today, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, the school will be closed to all students in years 8 and 10 up to and including Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

We will review the situation on Friday and update all parents. This is not in response to any specific health issue within those year groups but simply to help us manage large numbers of staff absence. This closure will be in place until further notice.

Additionally, while we can, we will provide a supervised learning area for students affected by the partial closure, whose parents/carers work for the Emergency Services. Children attending on this basis must arrive through main reception.

We will contact all parents of students who are in receipt of free school meals regarding arrangements to provide lunches.

All students have received information on how to access learning resources through the Academy website. Details of this can be found on our website by visiting <https://bit.ly/2QqPSRZ>. We will continue to keep you updated through our website and social media and will write to inform you of any changes to these arrangements.

At this time, please note that more routine enquiries into school will take longer for us to deal with. Should you wish to contact staff at this time or have any general enquiries then please contact [info@padgateacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@padgateacademy.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Barclay  
Principal

