



# WYVERN ACADEMY

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12 February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Half Term Update

As we reach the end of a very busy half term and begin to plan for the potential return of pupils to school with effect from Monday 8 March, dependent upon the announcement of the government expected on Monday 22 February, I am writing to you today to reflect on the last six weeks of remote learning during our partial closure, to update you on developments for the next half term and to thank you for your on-going support.

It is clear that without your support for your child during this remote learning period, they would have been unable to engage as fully as they have with our remote learning provision and as a result their learning journey would have been curtailed, making their return to school even more challenging. Thank you. Your support is very much appreciated by all the staff at Wyvern Academy.

Having reflected on the last six weeks and the feedback provided by both pupils and parents / carers through our on-line surveys, available here; [Parent / Carer survey](#) and [Pupil Survey](#), both of which are open until 3.00 pm on Friday 19 February, it is clear that one concern is shared by us all, your child's mental health. Over the last six weeks we have provided mental health support for your child and as we prepare for a return to school, this will be further increased. The first stage of this enhanced support, is a focus on returning your child's remote learning working patterns to school day timings.

Whilst we will continue to provide a 'blended learning' model for our remote learning provision, a model backed by evidence which highlights the flexibility this provides as a key positive in supporting adolescent mental health, we will also be 'nudging' your child to focus on a remote learning school day of 8.45 am to 3.00 pm. This nudge aims to bring your child's body clock back in to line with school based working, an essential element in the preparation for a return to school and to provide them with the opportunity to establish some separation between 'home life' and 'school life', which evidence indicates supports positive mental health.

This initial nudge will be achieved by reducing responses and contact between your child and their teachers outside school day timings and so restore the structure of the school day, although remotely. As a result, your child's engagement, as shown via Class Charts, will indicate their engagement during the school day, to provide you with the opportunity to support your child to re-align their working patterns. We will also reduce the number of emails and responses that your child receives overall, by responding to work sent to teachers using the 'like' notification ('Thumbs Up' on the email system) and limit these responses and emails to within the school day, allowing your child to contact their teachers during timetabled lesson time where they have any questions or queries. It is hoped that these changes will support your child to prepare for a return to school, whilst maintaining the flexibility that is essential whilst remote learning.

Once again may I take this opportunity to thank you for your support during this partial closure period. Please support your child to rest, relax and refresh over half term, so that they are able to re-engage with their remote learning from 8.45 am on Monday 22 February and so prepare for a return to school, hopefully before the Easter break. Have a great half term and thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mr J C Leader  
Headteacher

**HEADTEACHER: MR J C LEADER BA (HONS) NPQH MCCT**

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