



Ref: MJB/KC

22 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are well in these very difficult and challenging times.

### Whit Half Term

The Academy will continue to be closed to all students, except those who are vulnerable or with an EHC plan and those whose parents are key workers and are eligible to attend. The Academy will remain open for these students during the half term holiday (**Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May inclusive**). I am extremely grateful to staff who have again volunteered to come in during half term and provide childcare. If your child is eligible and has been attending, please remember to contact the Academy either by phone or email to book your child's place.

### Free School Meals

Our provision for free school meals will continue next week during the half term break (**w/b 25 May 2020**). Parents of students entitled to Free School Meals can collect a food hamper, provided by our caterer, Aspens, on Mondays between 11am and 12pm from the kitchens to the right of the main entrance. Alternatively, if you live in Mablethorpe, you can collect the hamper from the Co-op carpark at 12.30pm. Please contact the Academy if you have not taken advantage of this previously so we can ensure enough food is prepared.

### Partial re-opening for Year 10 students

The Government has announced that its ambition is for secondary pupils facing exams next year to get at least some contact time with their teachers before the holidays, providing the key scientific and medical evidence shows that it is safe to do so. They have proposed that Year 10 receive some face-to-face support to supplement their remote education, providing their 5 key tests to ease lockdown have been met. They have reiterated that this is not a return to a full timetable or students back in school full time. The provision will be to support students with their remote learning.

The Trust has taken the decision to open the secondary academies for **Year 10 from 15 June 2020**. This will be on a part-time basis with students attending in small numbers each day to ensure social distancing can be observed. We will send you a text/app message next week to enable you to confirm if your child will be attending. We will then confirm which day(s) and times provision is available for your child.

In order to support social distancing, government guidance is that parents transport their own children to school unless they have no other option. Parents of students requiring transport will need to contact Lincolnshire County Council School Transport by emailing [TSG@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:TSG@lincolnshire.gov.uk) stating your home address and that you require transport from 15 June 2020 to Louth Academy. There is no need to state which days your child is in the Academy. This needs to be done by 5 June 2020 in order for LCC to have time to organise a bus for your child.

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To ensure the safety of your child and the staff all students will be placed in a group with a maximum class size of 10. Each group will remain in one room and specialist staff will change depending on the subject covered. Students will not be permitted to socialise outside of their group at break and lunchtime. If any student does not conform to the Covid 19 protection measures including social distancing they will be sent home to continue their education remotely.

We will keep all aspects of a return for Year 10 under constant review and will notify you immediately of any changes.

### **Home learning on FROG**

I would like to thank you all for the support you continue to give your child with their home learning. It will always be challenging for students to be home-schooled, but our current approach via the FROG VLE platform ensures fair access to materials for all students. It gives a measure of consistency across departments and a single point of access for students, including those with limited IT facilities. Staff are monitoring their tasks, marking any work submitted via FROG and leaving comments for students. Staff will continue to set work for Years 7-10 and provide feedback via FROG. Please encourage your child to use this facility and if they have any concerns, raise it via the FROG comments section.

### **Contact by pastoral staff**

My pastoral staff have been contacting parents and students by telephone to offer support and guidance. If you would like any further support then please ring the Academy and we will arrange for a pastoral manager to call you. If you are experiencing any technical difficulties you can email our IT helpdesk on [itsupportmat@tollbarmat.org](mailto:itsupportmat@tollbarmat.org).

Finally, can I reiterate again my thanks to you in all that you are doing to support your child's education and wellbeing. If you have any questions or need further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch via our email address [enquiries@louthacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@louthacademy.co.uk) or by telephone on 01507 606349.

Please be assured that we are continually reviewing our practices to provide the best education we can at this very difficult time.

My very best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely

Martin Brown  
Executive Principal