



**Mr D Bell** - CEO Altius Trust  
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17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

We currently have no confirmed cases of coronavirus in the MEA community. However, an increasing number of students and staff are self-isolating because either they or a member of their close family has symptoms, such as a high fever or a dry cough.

We are doing all we can to ensure that we remain open. However, as the coronavirus spreads and we see decreasing staff levels, it is necessary for us to move to a partial academy closure.

We must therefore inform you that from tomorrow, **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, Year 9 and Year 10** students will be asked to **remain at home** until we notify you that they can return.

Work packs will be available for all year groups if and when we move to the next stage of partial closure. For Year 9 and Year 10 students, packs will be available to collect between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**. Please note that these should be collected from **The Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre** at 206 Portway and **not** the Academy.

In addition, all students who are affected by the partial closure and who are entitled to **free school meals** will be able to collect grab bags from **The Lifestyle Centre** between 11.30 and 1.00 each day this week.

The packs will include:-

- Your child's timetable.
- A set of work to complete for each subject.
- Instructions on how to complete the work set for each subject.
- Portal log in information so your child can access work remotely for some subjects.
- For Years 9-11 only, a flyer for GCSE Pod describing how to log in to revise at home.

If staffing levels decline further, we will be having a staggered closure for the remaining year groups as follows:-

1. **Year 8** will be asked to remain at home.
2. **Year 7** will be asked to remain at home
3. **Years 11 and 12** will remain in school unless or until full closure becomes necessary.

Just to remind you that the government advice is that people should self-isolate for 14 days if there is anyone in the household with the symptoms as described in the official guidance. In addition, the government has issued further guidance today which strongly advises people with a number of pre-existing conditions, including asthma and diabetes, to remain at home. The full up to date guidance can be found here:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>.

Thank you for your support and patience during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

**Ruth Bradbury**  
Principal

