

*'Providing the tools for mastery'*

29<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, schools will continue to be closed until the very earliest, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The Skills Hub remains open to Key Worker children and those students that have been identified as requiring additional support. We have already been in contact with these parents and carers.

I am very sorry for the challenges and stress this might place upon your child and possibly your family. However, through these difficult times we are determined to provide your child with high quality remote learning through our virtual classrooms on Microsoft Teams online. It is really important that our young people engage with these lessons and the set work that has been delivered to your home, to ensure that they do not fall behind with their learning.

The Prime Minister announced that public examinations for Year 11 students will not take place as planned this summer, and that another means of assessment will be used instead. Students should not worry too much about this – if they are attending their mock exams and engaging with the online learning, as these activities are likely to contribute to their final assessments. We strongly advise that all Year 11 students engage with their online education as planned; indeed, our expectation will be that all students will engage fully in their online learning to ensure that students are able to meet any demands outlined by Ofqual (the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) to evidence their potential in the examination subjects they are entered for.

We are launching a new daily form time for all students to log into at 9.30am (max. 15 minutes). This is an opportunity for our staff to meet your child online and to:

- 1) Ask them if they have encountered any problems accessing IT or receiving work
- 2) Set a target for students to complete work that they have been sent
- 3) Provide an opportunity for some social interaction with both staff and fellow students.

We will also have an important daily afternoon session at 2.30pm (max. 15 minutes) 'Level Up' slot:

- 1) Welcome students back and enquire if they have completed any targets set from the morning sessions.
- 2) Introduce weekly topics, led by their Skills Coaches or any guest speakers that may be joining sessions during the week. Students will be asked for any feedback at the end of the session and any issues logging on.

All students that engage with these sessions and complete work will receive merits and points towards weekly £10 vouchers.



Teachers and staff will all continue to work extremely hard during these times, preparing and responding to students' work, and contacting you and your child regularly to maintain contact with yourselves. If you have any queries or concerns during this time, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us and we will do our very best to help. You can call the office on 01895 447 102 or email [reception@yphub.org](mailto:reception@yphub.org)

Yours faithfully,

Paul Chambers  
Principal for The Skills Hub