



Joseph Leckie Academy

RC/SR

October 23rd 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: HALF TERM HOLIDAY

I am writing to remind you that the Academy will close at the normal time on Friday, October 23rd for the start of the half term holiday and will re-open at the usual time on Monday, November 2nd 2020.

This has been a very difficult and challenging time for all students, staff and families and we are grateful for your on-going support in ensuring that your child is safe and follows the rules. We have been impressed by how well students have adapted to these and settled back into their studies.

This pandemic is still very much with us and rates are currently on the increase, so we all have a responsibility to try and reduce the spread. I would remind all of you that during the current restrictions, it is essential that students and families follow the Walsall guidance. Walsall is currently in 'high alert' and this means a number of restrictions in place to ensure you and your child are safe as well as to playing an important part in reducing the spread of the virus. Thank you for all of you who have provided and encouraged your child to wear masks in communal areas. As these are now mandatory in communal areas, please ensure that your child continues to have a mask and wears them on their return after half term.

What does a 'HIGH' level alert mean? These are some of the main points:

This means new restrictions are now in place to try and ensure we slow the spread of the virus as much as possible locally. You and your child/children:

- **must not socialise with anybody who you do not live with or have formed a support bubble with, in any indoor setting**, whether at home or in a public place, including hospitality venues.
- **must not socialise in a group of more than six outside**, including in a garden or other space, such as beaches or parks (other than where specific exemptions apply in law).
- Schools, universities and places of worship remain open, but **you must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble**.
- must also continue to follow **social distancing guidelines, wear face coverings where required including in school, and wash hands frequently**.

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG

Acting Principal: Rachel Cook

Tel: 01922 721 071 Fax: 01922 641 497

email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

website: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk



Joseph Leckie Academy

- can attend exercise classes and organised sport can continue to take place outdoors. These will only be permitted indoors if it is possible for people to avoid mixing with people they do not live with or share a support bubble with, or for youth or disability sport.
- can continue to travel to venues or amenities that are open, for work or to access education, but should look to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible.

This means that the Academy will re-open after half term as usual until we are advised otherwise by the Government or where we may have to send students home for isolations. However, we will continue to ask students to follow our Covid protocols, including: social distancing at all times (the 2m rule wherever possible), no touching/shaking hands, wearing masks in all communal areas in the Academy, staying in year group bubbles at all times, separate entrances and exits, staying on the left when they move around the Academy as some of the main rules.

In anticipation that the weather will become colder and wetter, would you please ensure that your child has a plain, dark coloured, waterproof coat to wear? May I remind you that hoodies, track suits and sports tops do not protect your child against the rain and winter weather conditions and are not permitted? In addition, leather, denim and fashion jackets are not allowed. Anyone who wears these items to school will have them confiscated. Please see the attached uniform poster.

Thank you to the very many parents who ensure that their children are always in full Academy uniform every day and are very smartly dressed.

I would also like to remind you that when dropping off or picking up your child(ren) at either the beginning or end of the day, to be aware of the parking restrictions near to the different entrances to the Academy and to be mindful of local residents' driveways and pathways.

We have been contacted by some local residents about parents who park their cars in restricted areas blocking people's drives and in doing so upset local neighbors. I would ask all drivers to take extra care and park appropriately.

If your child is sent home to isolate, work is provided remotely via our Academy SharePoint with a combination of Teams lessons delivered live or streamed by teachers and other class activities to do on-line. They need to access these during their normal timetabled lesson time. Students will also receive emails from their teacher on their school accounts and instructions via Ruler. Where your child is unable to access work due to limited access to a computer/tablet, please contact your child's teachers and they will provide hard copies as needed.

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG
Acting Principal: Rachel Cook
Tel: 01922 721 071 Fax: 01922 641 497
email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk
website: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk



Joseph Leckie Academy

We will continue to inform you of any changes to National guidance or local lockdowns or restrictions that may come into force via text and the website. We have reduced hard copies of letters home to minimize the risks of spreading the virus as much as possible.

I hope that you will all have an enjoyable week and that the weather is fine and that students stay safe and follow the COVID high alert rules.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms Rachel Cook
Acting Principal

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG
Acting Principal: Rachel Cook
Tel: 01922 721 071 Fax: 01922 641 497
email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk
website: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk