



Orchard Mead Academy
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05/01/2021

Principal: Mr I Patel

Dear Parent/Carer,

In light of the announcement from the Government yesterday, our school will be closed to students until at least February half term. We will keep you updated of any changes to this as we are made aware.

Remote Learning

Staff at Orchard Mead Academy continue to think about our students. We know these are difficult times for families and we wish to support you as much as possible with your children's learning.

Work can be accessed everyday via MS TEAMS and ClassCharts. **Your child must continue to work** during their usual school hours and must look and respond to their emails daily.

We will be monitoring very closely the level of engagement shown by your child through our ClassCharts and MS Teams platform. Overall, we have been hugely impressed by the level of online learning by the majority of our students last term when year groups and bubbles were isolating. If your child is finding it difficult to do their work, please can you make contact with their teachers via email and discuss any learning barriers and how we may be able to further support, however, not doing the online work is not an option.

We will be keeping a record of those who are not doing their work and this will be followed up when students return to school. There may be good reasons for a student not completing their online learning, for example, they maybe ill. If this is the case please can you notify the teacher, so that we have a record and can offer help and support in the best way possible. Please be aware that if students are not completing the set work, this will have an impact on termly tracking, predictions, attitude to learning grades and school reports.

The online learning is taking our teachers a tremendous amount of time and effort. They are doing this because they care about your child and their education and do not want to see them fall behind. They will be coming back to school in the future and their peers at Orchard Mead and in the country will be ahead of your child if he/she does not engage with the classwork and homework, so your support is very much appreciated.

Full time provision

Full time provision is available if your child has a special educational need, has a social worker or is vulnerable, or if you are a critical worker. We have already made contact with parents/carers who have notified us that they will be sending their child in to use this provision.

Students can also access the full time provision if they have no or limited access to IT equipment at home, so please get in touch and let us know if you want your child to attend our onsite school.

Here is a list of those considered to be critical workers:

[Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings)
(www.gov.uk)

If you fall in any of the above categories and require a place for your child please email us at info@orchard-tmet.uk or call 0116 2413371

Laptops

If your child does not have access to a laptop, PC or tablet, we may be able to lend them one. Please email us on info@orchard-tmet.uk or call 0116 2413371

School meals

Student eligible for Free School Meals will receive vouchers from Edenred, in the same format as over the Christmas holidays.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I Patel', written over a horizontal line.

Mr I Patel
Principal