

LeAF Studio

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Principal: Mrs N Lapskas



18 March 2020

Dear parents and carers

RE: Partial Academy Closure for Year 9

I am writing to inform you that LeAF Studio School will be closed to Year 9 from Thursday 19th March to Friday 17th April 2020 inclusive.

I apologise for the short notice, but unfortunately, I am not able to open the academy safely for all year groups at this time due to staff absence based on the latest guidance regarding the coronavirus. In these unprecedented times, we have an increasing number of staff now self-isolating and we are unable to get in external staff in to cover lessons. It is no longer viable to continue our normal operations so we have made the difficult decision to close the school to Year 9 students. Our priority has to be the year groups who have external exams this summer and so we have made this decision to ensure we can continue the Year 11 and 13 lessons for as long as possible. I have therefore had to take the difficult decision to operate a system of partial closures.

For all other students we will continue to follow the government advice. The only exception to this position would be for students whose parents are front line service workers. If you have a child in a year group who is being asked to work from home, you work for front line services and neither you or any of your household have any symptoms or have been advised to self-isolate, please send your child into school so that you can attend work. Please contact the School via the main office 01202 578886 advising of the details if this is the case and that your child will be in school.

Since they are preparing for GCSE exams, our intention is that Year 11 students will be in school every day while we are advised to remain open and are safely able to do so. Therefore, your child (if not having been asked to work from home) **may** find that:

- Classes have been combined where there is a smaller number of children in each room than normal.
- Classes may be taught in a larger room than would be usually expected in order that an increased number of pupils can be educated at the same time.
- Your child's usual teacher may have been replaced by someone less familiar but qualified to teach.

The whole year 9 group were given an assembly this morning regarding how to access their work online – all subjects have been busy setting work for them via **Show My Homework** and students will be expected to complete this while they are off. For those students (or parents) who cannot remember their log ins, these can be accessed by emailing Mr Clark tclark@leaf.bournemouth.sch.uk or by simply searching for "LeAF Studio" on the main SMHW page and then filtering down to Year 9.

We will be running a rewards afternoon once we reopen for all those students who complete work for each subject. As parents, please support your young people as best you can in encouraging them to complete these tasks while they are away from school, for however long that may be. Please also ensure that they are following all of the latest government advice in terms of avoiding any unnecessary social contact.

There are also additional free online platforms listed below recommended for students to access in addition to the personalised work set on Show My Homework:

HegartyMaths: <https://hegartymaths.com/login/learner>

Corbett Maths: <https://corbettmaths.com/>

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

I am sure that this response will not come as a complete surprise to you and your family given the situation facing our nation and the world. As per the previous letters that have been sent home, we will continue to follow government advice and remain open, at least on a partial basis, for as long as possible.

We will endeavour to keep you up to date with all of the latest information about this closure, but as I am sure you can appreciate the situation is changing on an almost hourly basis at the moment. Please check our website and make sure you follow us on social media for the latest updates.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs N Lapskas
Principal