



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs L Walton** BA (Hons)



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20th April 2020

Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: **Miss J Scattergood** BEd (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope that you and your families have had a good Easter break.

Today sees the start of the summer term – a time of GCSE and A-level exams, our own Year 7-10 exams, proms, Sports Days and Year 6 into 7 and post-16 transition days. Some of that is lost, some is in the balance and some – like the transition work – still has to happen, though maybe in a new way.

Regarding public examinations, we now have much greater clarity from Ofqual on how to produce grades for GCSE and A-level. Senior leaders and Heads of Department have been working very hard to ensure students will eventually receive the grades they deserve. As for other key events this term, our plans very much depend on whether school is fully open or partially open at the time. Again, staff have been working very hard to plan for key school events to run in either eventuality. We will be writing to keep you updated regarding arrangements for any upcoming events nearer to the time.

What we currently know is that schools will continue to remain open only for the children of Essential Key Workers as well as our most vulnerable children for the next few weeks. The DFE definition of “most vulnerable children” includes young carers, “looked after” children, children with Child protection plans or who are supported by social care, and children with an EHCP or disability. Can I once again remind you of the arrangements for notifying us should your child need to attend school? These are to email Mrs Maycock at dmaycock@ripleyacademy.org by 4pm the day prior to needing to book your child in for childcare.

Staff are continuing to set work for students through Show My Homework. However, there is further support for parents and students that can be found online at the following places:

The DFE has published the following guidance specifically for parents

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-your-childrens-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

BBC Bitesize has a new TV channel, podcasts, videos, and lessons each day online at

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

There is also the Oak Academy which is a collaboration of 40 teachers nationally that have created lessons and resources for schools to use. Resources can be found at <https://www.thenational.academy>.

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.

Finally, the Free School Meal Voucher Scheme, which is administered through EdenRed, is now up and running. I understand that there have been some delays for some families in receiving these vouchers. Can I thank you for your patience with this system? Please contact Andy Jones at ajones@ripleyacademy.org if you are entitled to these vouchers and have yet to receive them.

Once again, I thank you for your support at this unprecedented time.

If you have any queries then please contact the school at enquiries@ripleyacademy.org.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J de Rijk', written in a cursive style.

Mr J de Rijk

Head of School

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