

11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent,

I hope that everyone is safe and well? I am writing to you to give you a brief update on the UTC and the current remote learning plan. As you will most likely be aware we are expecting to be facing school closure until at least 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This will mean that we will be teaching using remote learning, facilitated via the Microsoft Teams platform. Lessons will be available daily from 8:50am until 3pm in line with the timetable shared last week (available to view on the UTC website). It is very important that students engage with these sessions and their class teachers.

I have asked teachers to make themselves available during their scheduled lessons during the hours of 8:50am and 3pm via TEAMS. They will be very happy to support at this time. Can I ask that we try to limit the out of hours contact with staff, with the exception of emergencies.

Whilst it has been announced that GCSE and A-level exams will not take place in their usual form, it is clear that a series of significant assessments (tests) will take place and form a critical part of the grade award decision. We will publish the detail of how this will work as it becomes available. All students should be prepared for exams as normal in order to ensure that they get the grade they deserve. In addition to this, it appears that BTEC exams may go ahead as planned, as they have done this January. Therefore, it is imperative that BTEC students work closely with their BTEC teachers on assignment completion and exam preparations. Rest assured that the UTC will do its best to ensure that our students get the grades they deserve and reflect the grades that they would be capable of.

We remain open to a small group of Critical worker children and vulnerable students, who are being supervised to complete their remote learning. We remain open and committed to supporting the front line workers as the country pulls together to beat Covid. Can I please remind parents that this is an emergency provision should only be utilised where a student cannot safely remain at home?

London remains at the heart of the most recent wave of infections and as such we should all remain extra vigilant for the next few weeks. With this in mind, can I signpost the UTC website and the Covid resource hub that has a page dedicated to highlighting the latest advice and guidance and places where support is available.

Stay Safe

Regards



Austin Sheppard

Principal