



EEMSept2019/Jun2020/Y10DL
June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Distance Learning – Year 10

Firstly, I hope you and your families are keeping well in these very challenging and concerning times.

I wanted to write to you to explain the provision that is currently in place for Year 10.

In May, we sent out a Year 10 survey, both on social media and via a text message link. The survey was to ask you if you intended to send your child back into school before September to enable us to plan for social distancing and staffing requirements in June. Following that questionnaire we have responded by offering some short face to face sessions to Year 10 learners starting week commencing 15 June and week commencing 22 June.

In the first instance these sessions have been offered to parents who completed the questionnaire expressing a wish to send their child back in June. These sessions are taking place on Tues/Wed/Thurs from 10am-12noon. They are designed to supplement distance learning and **are not a replacement to home learning**. We are following government guidelines which have advised the following (taken directly from www.gov.uk):

“We are asking secondary schools to offer this face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 pupils, which should remain the predominant mode of education during this term for pupils in these year groups”.

All other Year 10 learners will also be offered two face to face meetings with a member of the Year 10 Tutor Team and these will take place week commencing 22 June and week commencing 6 July, **allowing all learners to access some face to face support** before the end of term. Learners that are in school should wear their PE top, comfy dark coloured jogging bottoms and their PE trainers. This allows for easy washing of their clothes following their visit to school. They are not allowed to wear additional accessories such as baseball caps.

I fully appreciate that your views may have changed since the Year 10 survey, however we have to adhere to very strict class size limits, social distancing measures and we are also unable to have any more than one quarter of our Year 10 cohort in school at any one time. These guidelines are set by the Government, not The Link Academy and we have to adhere to them to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Therefore, it is very important that you only send your child into school for the sessions that they are requested for. All 1-1 face to face session appointments will be sent out by text message. If your child arrives to school when they are not scheduled to, you will be contacted and your child will be sent back home.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in helping your child/children during their distance learning. Year 10 is an absolutely crucial year for your child and it is of utmost importance that they establish and maintain an effective and regular pattern for their distance learning. As stated above, **distance learning is the primary mode of education** and we obviously hope that full time schooling will resume in September.



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The Link Academy

Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands. DY2 0PB

T: 01384 816500 E: info@thelinkacademy.org.uk

W: www.thelinkacademy.org.uk

Principal: Emma Edwards-Morgan



Our teaching staff are recording an effort score for each learner from 0-5 each week, for all subjects (0 being incomplete work through to 5 which represents outstanding effort in their learning). We are continuing to use the effort scores to award Amazon Vouchers and prizes to learners both for high effort scores and improving effort. As always our social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube are promoting learner efforts and rewards as well as keeping our community connected at this time.

We have also been supporting families with ICT access where possible, we only have limited resources but we have tried to prioritise learners that have no device at home to access and complete their work. I realise that during this difficult time, personal circumstances may well change. Please do reach out to us if we can help in anyway by emailing info@thelinkacademy.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Emma Edwards-Morgan
Principal



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