

Dear Parent/Carer

## Easter 2020 Newsletter

### Coronavirus

May I start this newsletter by thanking all the parents for working with the academy during the current coronavirus pandemic. For all UK schools to be closed until further notice is unprecedented. I am pleased that Beacon was fully open with all classes operating as normal until the UK national shutdown on Friday 21 March 2020. During this shut-down period the academy is not fully staffed or operating under normal circumstances and we thank parents in advance for considering this.

The staff team at Beacon have been reporting for work to ensure educational provision for students who are vulnerable or whose parents are key workers. For the vast majority of students working off-site, work has been provided electronically via the 'Ed-Lounge' and 'Show My Homework' platforms. Year 10 Sports Studies & Sports Science have benefitted from live video conferencing lessons.

A significant number of parents have requested work-packs, often because parents who are now working at home are using the family pc/laptop. The staff have worked to ensure all 400 students have been provided with work-packs. We have also home delivered work-packs where parents have been unable to collect. New work-packs and updated free school meals vouchers will be ready to collect the week commencing Monday 20 April. Please check our website and twitter account @BeaconAcademyCL for collection times.

The pastoral team have been contacting all parents during this period to 'check-in' on the well-being of the students. We really appreciate the overwhelmingly positive feedback parents/carers have provided during these phone calls.

**Extra-curricular update:** Prior to the shutdown; Beacon Academy has been the usual vibrant academy we have come to expect; trips to the 'Ropewalk' art exhibition, the Yorvik Viking Centre in York, the annual 'World Book Day event, a fantastic 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the regional dodgeball championships and a Ks4 performing arts evening showcase are just some examples. Once again our team of Sports Leaders supported the organisation of the primary school cross-country championships, supporting over 1,300 primary aged children.

Scheduled **site upgrades** including those planned for Easter have slowed during this period due to the unavailability of contractors. We will ensure that the investment to our site including the Science Tower roof continues as soon as possible. The academy has been recruiting additional staff for September 2020 as we are over-subscribed; 120 students are joining the academy in year 7 with an additional 17 students on our waiting-list.

### Staffing News

I am delighted to announce the following appointments for September 2020.

- Mr A.Smith to the post of Teacher of Maths, Mr Smith joins us from Cleethorpes Academy
- Miss R.Wiggett to the post of Teacher of Maths; Miss Wiggett joins us from Toll Bar Academy
- Miss L.Chajid to the post of Teacher of English; Miss Chajid joins us from St Saviour's & St.Olave's school in London.
- Miss E.Rafton to the post of Teacher of Geography; Miss Rafton is training at the University of Hull
- Mr J.Merritt to the post of Teacher for Modern Foreign Languages; Mr Merritt joins us from Louth Academy

**Summer 2020 GCSEs:** Year 11 parents: the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation known as OFQUAL are in discussions on how to awards GCSE grades to year 11 students. When we receive confirmed information I will write separately to year 11 parents. Please be assured we will not allow any Beacon Academy students to be disadvantaged by the coronavirus pandemic.

**OFSTED;** On 3 & 4 March Beacon was inspected by OFSTED under the challenging new OFSTED inspection framework, I will send our new report as soon as it is released. OFSTED reports have been delayed by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

**Validated GCSE Outcomes:** I am particularly proud that in the 'Open' suite of option subjects the students choose at Key Stage 4. The progress made by Beacon Academy students is 'Outstanding' and places us in the Top 20% of all schools in the UK.

### Final validated Secondary School League Table – Open subjects.

Rank	Secondary School	Progress 8 Score
1	John Whitgift	+0.83
2	Humberston Academy	+0.58
3	Healing Academy	+0.37
<b>4</b>	<b>Beacon Academy</b>	<b>+0.31</b>
5	Oasis Academy Wintringham	+0.13
6	Toll Bar Academy	+0.03
7	Cleethorpes Academy	-0.02
8	Oasis Academy Immingham	-0.58
9	Ormiston Maritime Academy	-0.59
10	Havelock Academy	-0.66

If you have any queries or concerns please e-mail the academy at the following address;  
[office@beaconacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@beaconacademy.co.uk).

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parents/carers and students a very happy Easter holiday. I hope you all look after yourselves during these challenging times and please stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Thurley', with a horizontal line above it.

Jason Thurley  
Headteacher