

5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

**Re: A disruptive start to the new half term**

I wanted to send you this letter by means of a thank you message for all of your patience and incredible support through what has to be the most disruptive start to a new half term ever experienced by anyone working here at our academy. It is also important for me to explain exactly what happened with our heating system and the steps we were actively taking to limit the damage to the education of our young people.

Our heating system was fully functional when we all returned to the academy. It took the engineers until lunchtime on Wednesday to fix the system. New parts are still on order and work will continue to try and safeguard against this occurring again. For such a new building we certainly did not expect this to have happened in the first place.

Apologies we asked Years 7, 8 and 9 to remain at home for Tuesday and Wednesday but there was not the classroom space to accommodate them comfortably. All of the lessons that we re-roomed for our older students were warm, heated using hired heaters or new air conditioning units in the classrooms on our top floor. I have to say the students were absolutely brilliant, they behaved impeccably and attendance was also very good. All have examinations rapidly approaching and it was important to try to not miss out on valuable learning time. This does not imply we do not value the learning time missed by our younger students and to these ends we have uploaded all of the Spring B Knowledge Organisers onto our website; these can now be accessed to complete further home study to support the skills and content being delivered by teachers for this half term.

The weather was the icing on the cake and again I have to apologise but there was nothing we could do to avoid closing the academy once more. The health and safety of our students and staff is absolutely paramount.

So we begin this half term again, today, 5<sup>th</sup> March! We expect all students to be back in their full academy uniform with their focus clearly on making the best progress they can do in the remaining weeks before the Easter break.

Thank you all again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

*R. Hillier.*

Mrs. R. Hillier  
Principal