



Eden Boys

11th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Assalaamu Alaikum (Peace Be Upon You)

Thank you for your continued support during this period of lockdown; it has been a most challenging period in education. We are in awe of how our students have risen to the unique challenges which they have faced and how you as parents have supported them.

I am extremely grateful to the staff who have worked tirelessly to support and educate our students through this immensely difficult time. They have put in a lot of effort into creating online lessons and devising resources that can be accessed at home.

We are delighted to inform you that our new build plans are on schedule and we anticipate moving into our new state-of-the-art building after the May half term this year.

We share mental and physical wellbeing tips for our students and parents on a weekly basis. Please follow our school Twitter account for tips on how to keep mentally and physically healthy during this difficult time.

Please note that the school closes **at 12 pm on Friday 12th February**. Thank you again for all your support to Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Birmingham East. The school will re-open on **Monday 22nd February 2021 at 8.00 am**.

Remote Learning

The remote learning offer during this period of lockdown has been structured to match the curriculum offer we have in school and around the timetable of our students. For many this has provided an opportunity to structure their day, engage in the live lessons and work independently on tasks.

Last week's whole school online attendance was 97.8%, thank you for your support with your child's attendance. We hope to continue this high level of attendance after half term.

Our Remote Learning Policy is available on our website in the information section. It is important that your child engages with home learning and upholds the principles of the Pupil Code of Conduct in the Remote Learning Policy. Students should arrive on time for registration at 8 am. We have high expectations of students' attendance, engagement and work ethic, irrespective of whether learning is conducted remotely or face-to-face. It would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what work they've done.

Pastoral and Learning Support

Your child's wellbeing is our top priority. Our Pastoral Team has been maintaining regular contact with students and families to ensure they are fully supported pastorally and academically. Afterschool Interventions have been taking place to provide additional support to students' progress and achievement. We have offered to keep the school open to allow those students that are vulnerable or cannot access internet and this has been successful.



Student Laptops and internet access

We have supported our most vulnerable students with laptops and dongles, so that they can fully benefit from the online learning from home. Some students have also been invited to attend school so that they can have dedicated access to their own device. We have also identified families who are in need of internet access and these families have been given codes with six months' free access to BT Wi-Fi hot spots. We aim to continue supporting those families who cannot access the internet or are having issues with sharing devices with other siblings whilst in lockdown.

Free School Meals

All families entitled to Free School Meals have been receiving supermarket vouchers electronically worth £15 each week. If you have experienced a change in circumstances, please apply online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>

COVID-19 Testing

We are continuing to test all staff and students who are on site, to reduce the spread in school through asymptomatic transmission. We strongly encourage those students who come in school to be tested once a week. Paper copies of the consent forms are available from Reception or your son's Head of Year.

Contacting the school

It is important for parents and carers to keep us updated with any new home address, email addresses or telephone numbers. Please email info@ebbhomeast.staracademies.org with the updated information. Anything that is urgent, please telephone the school, our Reception opening hours are 8 am – 4 pm. Please leave a voice message outside these hours. The school will be closed during the February half term from 15th Feb – 19th Feb 2021 so please email us in case of an emergency.

Unauthorised absences

We would like to thank those parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

Absence disrupts the education of the individual student and the whole class. Are you aware that children who do not attend regularly:

- Do not achieve well in exams
- Find it difficult to maintain friendships
- Miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work

We work in partnership with Parents to improve school attendance.

Key events this half term

- **Quran Completion:** We have completed 14 Qurans (13 from students and 1 from staff) on Thursday 28th February. As a Trust we have now officially completed over 100 Qurans. May Allah (SWT) reward those that have taken part and contributed to the Quran Completion and to those who observed the event.
- **Exam Results:** Our Health and Fitness students performed exceptionally well in their exams with 96% of students getting Level 2 Pass, 72% Merit and 46% Distinction Level 2.

- **Parents' Evening:** Due to Covid restrictions, our Year 9 and Year 10 Parents' Evening were held online, with a 1:1 video call where Parents met and had a discussion with each of their child's teachers. We had record attendance with over 93% Parents attending the online Parents' Evening and reinforcing the partnership between home and school.
- **Holocaust Memorial Day 27th January:** Students took part in a special assembly with an external speaker Rabbi Yossi Jacobs as an act of remembrance and commemoration for those who perished in the Holocaust and other genocides. The theme for this year was "Be the light in the darkness". It encourages everyone not only to reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities transformed darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide.
- **World Cancer Day 4th February:** Students of Form 7A produced an informative animation to spread awareness about cancer. They also conducted and recorded a professional interview with each other about how we can do more to raise awareness especially during the pandemic.
- **Safer Internet Day 9th February:** This day is a celebration of the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. This year's theme was 'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world' and students took part in a variety of activities to learn about online safety issues.
- **Sunnah Fasts:** We are encouraging our students to keep fasts on Mondays and Thursdays to prepare them for Ramadan. Please refer to the Sunnah Fasting letter sent earlier this week.

Please note that there will be no live lessons during the half term and school will be closed to all students. If you have any concerns, please email info@ebbhameast.staracademies.org.

Thank you again for all your support to Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Birmingham East and hope you all have a safe and relaxing half term break.

Yours sincerely,



Akhmed Hussain
Associate Principal