

11 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Early Closure: Friday 28 May

I am writing to give you advance notice that the Academy will close early on Friday 28 May, with students leaving site after 12.10 pm. Students will be set remote learning for Periods 4 and 5 and should log on to Doodle when they return home to complete this work. School buses will arrive at 12.10 pm and will leave site at 12.30 pm, allowing time for those students who require a lunch to collect one from the canteen.

I apologise for the additional closure, and the late notice to you of it. I would like to explain to you why we have had to make this choice. This year, the government has cancelled examinations for Year 11 and Year 13 students. As a consequence, we have to assess the work of these students in school ourselves. Our students have worked extremely hard over the five or seven years of their secondary school education, and it is crucial that their outcomes reflect their extraordinary efforts. Teachers have put in an enormous amount of work to set and standardise these assessments. They also have to mark these assessments and moderate them. Additionally, there will be a thorough quality assessment process for this work to go through. All of this work is completed by exam boards in any normal year. Therefore, we have arranged more time where school staff can work together to moderate these assessments.

If you do not wish your child to leave school at this time, we will provide an area for them to undertake this remote work. Should you need this support, please inform your child's Head of Year via enquiries@astrea-longsands.org.

I hope you will understand, therefore, the last-minute nature of this decision to close the school early on this day. We very much appreciate your support and anticipate no additional changes to the school year between now and the end of term in July.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Yours sincerely



Mr N D Owen
Principal