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15 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### **School Closure and Thank You**

I am just writing to say a big thank you on behalf of all the staff at Furness Academy for the work you have put into supporting your children with home schooling throughout this unprecedented period of closure.

As an organisation we are very conscious that you have had to shoulder a lot of the responsibility which normally falls to us during term time. On a daily basis you will have had to motivate and encourage teenagers who, at times, will have been reluctant to work. You will have been called on to provide help and support in subject areas you may not have studied yourself for some time – with only a search engine for help. All this, whilst juggling work commitments and supporting other family members.

Our teachers have worked hard to ensure that the work set has caught a balance between accessibility and appropriate challenge – where this has not been the case we can only apologise. Hopefully, any concerns you have raised have been listened to and we have certainly looked to change practice, following your feedback.

Over the past three weeks we have operated a successful trial for all Year 10 students using the Microsoft Teams platform. This has seen them trained on the system and a series of timetabled live lessons put into operation. At the start of the new academic year we will ensure that all other year groups receive the same training and we will begin to use the platform to support the day to day running of the curriculum.

Finally, I would like to thank you once again for your continued support of the school and I hope that you have a great summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Kelly  
**Deputy Headteacher**



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