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From: Jon Coles [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP
              (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D88DC1677D22412BB79F04979C6D50D9-JON COLES]
Sent: 13/03/2020 15:21:26
To: Herrington, Dominic-NSC [Dominic.HERRINGTON@education.gov.uk]
Subject: Coronavirus

Hi

Just following up previous feedback with some specific things we're thinking about at present looking ahead to the point when schools may have to close:

-        Ongoing flow of information still good and useful. Most of the main questions can be answered from this and more general guidance.
-        There seems increased clarity that the peak is likely to be in the exam season. I don't think that the current Ofqual lines are very satisfactory in that context and they need to give people more information. In particular 'it's all a long way away' line doesn't really stack up when art and design, graphics etc. students are doing coursework which counts now. I don't think people necessarily need final answers, but a bit more clarity about how they're thinking about scenarios would be valuable.
-        On which note, a few things we'd welcome being given clarity on as and when we do get to the point of closure – if these can be picked up at the point of announcement, that would be useful:
o   Whether it will be acceptable for schools to open for limited numbers of exam students (in subjects like art) who are creating portfolios which count for their final exam grades, and whether they would have to apply particular conditions to allow this to happen. (E.g. students certain distance apart, no more than x students in specific space etc.)
o   Whether it will be permissible for boarding schools to continue to accommodate some students if the school is closed. (From a safeguarding perspective, I think that the answer will have to be 'yes' if overseas students have no guardian who can accommodate them.)
o   [It would be helpful to have a slightly earlier view on this one if possible.] Whether schools will be able to offer food vouchers to FSM pupils during a period of closure.

Jon