



18th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Return to School after Christmas

Thank you for your patience in waiting for further details regarding the government announcement about a staggered start to Term 3. I am frustrated that this has had to be passed on to you in this way and this was clearly not the end of term message I wanted to pass on.

Following discussions this morning it has been agreed that:

- **Monday 4th January** is now being classed as a Logistics day. Staff will be expected to be on site. Students will remain at home. No remote learning will be set for students on this day. This will enable staff to fully process thee government guidelines and be prepared for the term ahead.
- From Tuesday 5th January Friday 8th January the only students on site will be those in years 11 and 13, the students that are in the Resource Base bubble and the children of other vulnerable students/keyworker students. Parents of children classed as vulnerable/keyworker students should use this form to indicate their attendance between 5th 8th January https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnzosIzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UNE5JMUI0NVE2UVU5NU80OTVJSkU3UU5OMi4u This will enable the students to be kept in year group bubbles within the school.
- From **Monday 11th January** all students will be back on site in years 7 13.

Remote learning arrangements will follow the normal school timetable for each year group (see attached appendices). This information will be reissued again in January.

External exams will continue as usual. We wish students who are taking exams in January the very best of luck.

Testing was part of the announcement yesterday, stating that students and teachers will have access to mass testing from January. Specifically this referenced staff would be tested weekly and students who were identified as close contacts of someone testing positive can be tested daily and remain in school if negative. Testing would be optional but those not consenting would be subject to the normal 10 day isolation period.

Although I support the aim of testing to ensure fewer days are lost to self-isolation, we have had no time to think about this as a process and I refuse to have staff working on this over the Christmas holidays. I will return to this issue in January and more information will be forthcoming then. Needless to say, I will do all I can to make the system work within the constraints we have.

Finally....(again)

Many thanks for the words of support have come in this morning – there may have been a leaky eye moment at some points.

Working with the families and the people I do really does mean I have the best job in the world – even with everything that is going on.

See you in 2021!

Take care and be kind.

Elliott

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott Head teacher