

Friday 1 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope that you are having a good break and we wish you all a very happy New Year.

As you may be aware, late on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, the Secretary of State for Education announced last minute changes to the reopening of schools in England from January 2021.

Please read the following message carefully as arrangements have changed since the letter we sent you last term. **Please note that no year groups will now return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - remote teaching starts from period 1 on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January for all year groups.**

We are continuing to work to keep our school as safe as possible. You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and pupils to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it. We will be testing all staff and pupils who want to participate from week commencing 4 January 2021. There is a letter about Lateral Flow Tests attached to this email. Please read it carefully. We will be sending out further information and a form to indicate your consent on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **UPDATED REOPENING ARRANGEMENTS - JANUARY 2021**

- **THESE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WILL OVERRIDE THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED DATES AND ARRANGEMENTS.**

#### **MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

**Staff INSET Day – no pupils on site.**

#### **TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 TO FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

- No face to face teaching in school for any year groups except for the children of Key/Critical Workers and vulnerable children.
- Children of Key/Critical Workers and vulnerable children are authorised to attend school from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January if we receive the request form by 9am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Pupils will take a Lateral Flow Test on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January providing parents have given their consent. Pupils will then follow their usual timetable and take a second Lateral Flow Test on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January (please see attached letter)
- **All year groups** will commence remote education (lessons taught via the internet) **following their normal timetable** via Microsoft Teams **from period 1 on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. Details will be sent to students via Microsoft Teams on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

- There will be no remote teaching for Year 13 on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January and for Year 11 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January. On these days, exam year groups will take the first of their Lateral Flow Tests before they return to school for their examinations the following week.

#### FROM MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021


- Mock exams for Year 11 will be delayed by a week and a new examination timetable will be distributed to pupils in Years 11 and 13.
- There is **still uncertainty in terms of when** students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will return to **on-site** teaching and learning. It certainly will not be any earlier than Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021.
- Public Examinations scheduled for January 2021 will continue as planned over the first few weeks.

The next few weeks might well be very difficult for us all to manage, given the local and national landscape. However, we all have a role to play in helping to reduce the transmission of the virus and to safeguard the education of pupils.

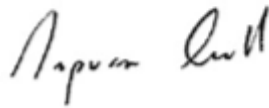
Please stay safe and well, thank you for your continued support.

#### Senior Management Team

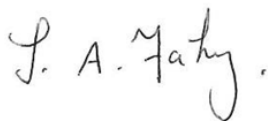
Headmaster

H.S. 

Senior Deputy Head (Curriculum)



Deputy Head (Pupil Support)  
Form)



Deputy Head (Resources & Community / Sixth

