

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Our Ref:** HT.JL.2089

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are well.

The Government, on Thursday afternoon updated its guidance regarding the start of term in January and has advised that secondary schools in England should not fully re-open to all students and staff following the Christmas holidays until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. A period of online learning is to be put in place with only some students in school.

Following this guidance we will open from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, as scheduled, for students classed as vulnerable, for children of key workers, and for students in exam year groups (i.e Year 11 and Year 13). Our pastoral teams will be in touch to inform you of the times when students will be expected in school and where their lessons will be taking place. Key workers are described here: [Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings), please could you complete the quick survey if your child will be accessing the keyworker provision: [Critical Worker Survey \(office.com\)](https://office.com). If your child has a scheduled January exam these will take place as normal, our exams team will notify you of any changes, all schedules have been shared in the tutor TEAMS.

All other students will receive their learning remotely for the first week of term (i.e. from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January) and they will be expected to engage fully with this. The lessons will be delivered as per our previous online lessons, the timetables can be found on the website. Students will be expected to follow their normal timetable, they should be online for 'live' lessons at the designated times and complete assignments set by their class teacher in TEAMS. Any issues with completing online learning please contact the Year Team Lead in the first instance. For students who have no access to IT that we already know of, work packs will be delivered over Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> in readiness for the lessons on Wednesday, if there are any additions to this please contact your Year Team before the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

We appreciate that this change is short notice and may inconvenience you, but it is essential that we closely follow all Government guidance on COVID-19 in order to safeguard our students, staff and wider school community.

We will write to you again with updates on the lateral flow testing once further details have been released from the Government.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. In the meantime, we look forward to seeing your child, either on their lessons on the MS TEAMS from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January and then back in school from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January; or on the 6<sup>th</sup> January if your child is classed as vulnerable, you are a key worker, or if your child is in an exam year group.

Yours sincerely,



**Helen Tanner**  
**Acting Principal**

