

To: All Parents / Carers

5th January 2021

Our Ref: HT.KH.2701

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Lockdown Arrangements

I hope you are well.

The Government, on Monday evening updated its guidance regarding the return to school and has advised that secondary schools in England should not fully re-open to all students after the Christmas period and remain partially closed to February half term (22nd February). Students who have access to ICT provision will follow their usual timetables at home with 'live' lessons, delivered as highlighted on the timetable, at other times they will be expected to complete the assignments set in TEAMS. Work packs have been sent home to all students who we know about that do not have ICT provision for this week. Additional work packs will be provided next week. We are exhausting all avenues to try and secure further additional ICT access to those students currently without.

Critical workers and vulnerable students

We will open from Wednesday 6th January, as scheduled, for students classed as vulnerable, for children of key workers. If you require your child to attend the keyworker provision and you have **not** already registered, then please complete the [Critical worker form](#). Key workers are described here: [Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Remote learning Expectations

All students will receive their learning remotely from **Wednesday 6th January to Friday 19th February 2021**, unless Government guidance changes, 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.

Students who fail to engage in their online learning will be contacted by a member of the pastoral team to discuss reasons for this non engagement.

Free school meals

We are going to continue to provide food parcels for students eligible for free school meals. If you have already registered with us for the food parcels you **do not** need to register again. However, should you require food parcels and have not already told us then please contact info@rsaacademy.org and someone will get back to you to confirm. Should your circumstances change, and you need to apply for free school meals then please go through the [Sandwell website](#).

January exams

If your child has a scheduled January exam these will take place as normal. A member of the exams team will have contacted your child/yourself to confirm times and days of the exam. If your child is currently self-isolating or has symptoms of Covid then please contact either Ms Branford (Post 16) dingley.k@rsaacademy.org or Mrs Smith (Y11) smith.j@rsaacademy.org.

Summer exams

The summer exam period will not go ahead as usual; however, the Government are working on appropriate ways of assessing pupils, which may include online testing, coursework or some type of formal assessment. It is therefore imperative that students in exam year groups continue to fully engage in their learning. Further information will follow as soon as it becomes available.

Updates

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 students start to return to school. Further updates will also be posted on our social media pages and the website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the pastoral team in the first instance or info@rsaacademy.org

Yours sincerely,



Helen Tanner
Acting Principal