

31 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Whole School Update 31 December 2020

I am contacting you today as a result of the latest Government announcements made last night with regards to the return to school for secondary students.

Schools have been instructed by the DfE as to the following:

'During the first week of term, beginning on or just after 4 January, secondary schools and colleges will focus on the rollout of testing to help find asymptomatic cases. They will provide face-to-face education for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers and prioritise resources for remote education for exam year groups in line with what they would receive in class and to all other years as resources permit.'

The current intention, in line with the latest guidance, is that we will provide face-to-face education for our vulnerable children and children of critical workers and remote learning for all other students for the week commencing 4 January. Currently, students in Years 11 and 10 will then return to Hungerhill on Monday 11 January 2021 with all other year groups continuing with remote learning. On Monday 18 January 2021 students in all other year groups will return.

Vulnerable and Critical Worker Provision – Week Commencing 4 January 2021

Vulnerable and critical worker children are able to attend school from Monday 4 January and will be supervised during this time in an ICT suite to complete their learning via Microsoft Teams. The deadline for replies has now ceased but if your circumstances have changed and you would now like to access this provision please complete the below by noon on Saturday 2 January to allow us to effectively prepare for Monday 4 January. Please only fill in the following form if you meet the criteria and would like to request a place.


https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=gpGINmBo_0aOcv4qHhM4ZmeL1Sr67ShIkNpjS6uu9PRUMTk2VTICRVFTUVI5OEZXWEpGTFIWQUINVC4u

We strongly recommend that students who are classed as vulnerable (Looked After Children and those with an Education Healthcare Plan) take up this provision.

Remote Learning – Week Commencing 4 January 2021

Remote education for exam year groups in Key Stage 4 will be live lessons for students in Years 9, 10 and 11, following their usual timetable. Students will be expected to log onto Teams and take an active role in the lessons being taught.



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We have created a bespoke timetable for Key Stage 3 so that students in Year 7 and 8 can still access remote learning, as we feel that these students should not be disadvantaged further by school closures. This is similar to the timetable that was utilised in the last few weeks of term when we had to close year groups due to staff shortages.

We appreciate that not all households have access to multiple devices e.g. laptops, tablets. Unfortunately, at this time, the school has not been allocated laptops that are available for families to borrow. We understand that this is not ideal. Please contact your Head of Year if your child is unable to participate in remote learning and we will endeavour to supply paper resources.

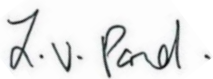
Mass Testing

We are currently awaiting further training and resources from the Government on the mass testing programme with testing equipment due to be delivered into school early next week. The Leadership Team have been working on procedures over the Christmas holiday and we are confident that we will shortly be able to update parents regarding progress with the programme. The intention will be to circulate an electronic form as soon as possible to gain consent for testing your child.

Please be mindful that our plans are subject to change, based on the latest government guidance and based on our capacity to test both staff and students on their return to school.

Finally, I hope you have all managed to have some quality family time over the festive period, despite the restrictions. I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and all the staff look forward to welcoming all students back into school over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs L Pond
Headteacher



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