



Dear Parent and Carer,

### Parent/Carer update – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

I hope this update finds you all well and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year.

You will no doubt be aware that on Wednesday and Thursday last week we had a series of announcements and new guidance from the Department of Education (DfE) about how schools should return in January.

This update is intentionally focused on what we know of the situation for next week, and our plan for the weeks following that. Please note there are significant changes in what was communicated to you all at the end of term on 18<sup>th</sup> December, and please be aware we have every sympathy with the uncertainty and disruption caused to families by these new changes.

#### 1. Week beginning 4th Jan

- Please note that **no students** should attend College on **Monday 4th January**.
- Starting at 0850 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January we will be running remote learning **to all year groups**. Please note it is Week A. This will be 'tier 2 remote learning- student groups self-isolating' and all details on how to access this are on the website under 'Remote Learning', as below.

#### Tier 2 – Student groups self-isolating

HOME ▶ REMOTE LEARNING ▶ TIER 2 – STUDENT GROUPS SELF-ISOLATING

In the event of a Tier, 2 lock down students will be asked to self-isolate alongside a large group of their peers, e.g. a whole year group.

All self-isolating students should follow their **daily timetable**.

In the event of a tier 2 scenario, all remote learning will be communicated via Google Classroom and lessons given through Google Meet.

Students will need to log in to **RM Unify** first, before accessing Google Classroom and Google Meet. This is for safeguarding. Students cannot access Google apps without logging into RM Unify initially.

#### Also in this section

TIER 1 – STUDENT INDIVIDUALS SELF-ISOLATING

TIER 2 – STUDENT GROUPS SELF-ISOLATING

- From **Tuesday 5th January** we will offer on site provision for students who have a parent or carer who is a Key Worker, and for students deemed vulnerable. Students in this provision will follow the same remote learning programme for all other students, and have their usual College day including breaks and lunches. Normal school transport will be available for students and we are working with our caterers to see what we may be able to offer those attending as Key Workers - we will confirm the arrangements for catering on Monday.
- **If you would like your young person to access this provision** please complete the Google Form at the link below and send them to school as usual from Tuesday with their usual equipment and in their usual school uniform.

<https://forms.gle/bMR36qseLRC61ojPA>

Please note even if you have already emailed staff at the College regarding this provision, we will still need you to complete the form above so that we have an accurate record. If you are unable to access the form, please ring us on 01803 869200 on Monday so we can assist you.

- Please note all of our staff will be onsite working as usual and will be contactable throughout the week. Our scheduled online Q and A for parents and carers will go ahead as planned on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 4.30pm with the link emailed to parents and carers on Monday afternoon.

## 2. Week beginning 11th January

- From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, all **Y11 students, Y13 students, and any Y12 students who have upcoming public exams**, will physically attend school as usual following their normal timetable. Y12 students who are attending will have face to face sessions for those lessons where they have upcoming exams, and will have the option to stay in College to follow their other lessons online.
- **Remote Learning** will continue for all students not physically on site in line with their usual timetable.
- **Key worker and vulnerable students** will continue to attend school and will follow remote learning under supervision from the KVV team.
- **We hope this week to begin introducing Lateral Flow Test Screening for students in Y11 and Y13.** This is part of a national programme to pick up students who may be carrying COVID-19 but not showing symptoms. All testing will be with parental and carer consent. We will be working extremely hard from the start of term to put this in place, and will update parents and carers with more detail towards the end of the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January.

## 3) Week beginning 18th January

- We currently plan that all students in all year groups will return to College on the 18th January and follow their usual timetable.
- Y11 Mocks will be postponed two weeks to begin on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January. We will confirm the timetable and arrangements for these as soon as possible.
- We hope this week to be able, in line with the DfE national programme, to offer Lateral Flow Test Screening for all students on their return to College, but we will of course keep you updated on this.

I hope the above gives you some clarity on what is a fast-changing situation. As ever, we will prioritise the safety, wellbeing and education of your young people in any decision making we have to undertake.

We will ensure that we communicate any further changes as soon as possible, and as always, please do come along (virtually) to our Q and A event on Monday, or email me directly if you have any questions or feedback. We are facing an exceptionally busy first week back, so we will prioritise urgent queries, but please be reassured your questions and feedback are always appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for our young people and community.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Salt  
**Principal**