



**HEDINGHAM SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM**
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

Official Sensitive

31 December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope that, amongst the turmoil, you all have been able to enjoy a happy and relaxing Christmas period.

As you are all aware, since my last letter there have been further changes in relation to the start of the new term. I wanted to reassure you that following on from the information released by the Government yesterday, that we will continue to work to keep your children safe whilst we support them with their learning and development. The most recent announcement has implications which significantly impact on the start of term. I will summarise the key information:

Monday 4 to 8 January

The school will only be open for key worker children and children with specific educational requirements. We have received the names of these students and they will attend school from 9.00 am on Monday 4 January. Students need to report to the reception area on entry into the school. Students will follow the on-site education provision with staff supervision and support. All other students in Years 7-13 will receive remote education through Microsoft Teams.

Monday 11 to 15 January

Year 11 and Year 13 students will be expected to attend school for face to face learning. They will follow their normal timetable, however, there will be some modification in practical subjects. All other students in Years 7 to 10 and Year 12 will continue to receive remote education through Microsoft Teams.

Monday 18 January

All students will return to school for face-to-face onsite learning.

Normal school uniform is required when students are on site.

We are currently in an area identified within the Contingency Framework so the situation will be reviewed in relation to all students returning. I will update you if the current plans change.

Remote learning

This will be delivered through Microsoft Teams and, as always, the school will provide the best quality provision possible. We remain mindful of the need to support our students who have examinations scheduled for this year. However, we remain committed to supporting all students as best possible during this challenging time. Mr Finch, Deputy Headteacher, will be sending out specific details in relation to the timetable and expectations for each year group. Engagement levels will be monitored after week one and appropriate contact will be made if there is limited or no engagement with Home Learning. Please ensure that you contact the school if you have any issues with access to devices (laptops, computers) or you are experiencing problems with connectivity. The school will support you with this.

Welfare Checks

Please could your son/daughter complete their mood scales on Monday 4 January. This is our central school system to monitor student welfare. Your child's Form Tutor or a member of our pastoral team will follow up with any students who have indicated that they are struggling during this period of time. If you are concerned about any aspect of your child or another student's welfare, please contact safe@hedingham.essex.uk or phone the school directly.

Testing

In line with Government guidance, we have been asked to plan for Covid-19 lateral flow testing to be carried out for all students. We are currently receiving further information regarding the organisation of this process and I will update you when we finalise arrangements.

All Vocational and BTEC examinations will go ahead as normal. Subject leaders will contact all students directly about the arrangements of their examinations and any preparation work that needs to be completed.

Please ensure that you refer to my previous letter related to Covid-19 symptoms. Students should not attend school if they display Covid-19 symptoms or have been asked to self-isolate.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and, as always, express my thanks for your continued support.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Harvison
Headteacher

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