



5 January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Following the announcement last night from the Prime Minister of a new national lockdown, we need to consider the short and medium term implications for the school.

We all regret that most students will not physically be in school but we also hope that this lockdown will ultimately save lives, protect NHS capacity and lead to a return to normality as soon as possible.

I understand, as a parent myself, the impact that home learning can have on students and family life. Our remote learning strategy which we have shared with you has been designed to ensure that we continue to provide high quality educational opportunity. We aim to provide our students with the best possible learning via live lessons, tutor sessions and ensuring they have some interaction. In light of at least six weeks of remote learning we will review our provision and write to you to confirm any adjustments to our planning.

For now, we will continue with our current plan as set out in Mrs Gibbs' letter of 31 December for this week. Namely:

- All students will virtually tutor in the morning at 8.45;
- Students in Year 11 will receive a mix of synchronous (live) and asynchronous lessons, following their normal timetable;
- Students in Years 7-10 will follow their normal timetable and will have all work set on their Google Classrooms. They will need to submit all work through this platform. All work will be set asynchronously (not live) this week.

To summarise what we know so far about the new lockdown:

- Remote learning will continue for the next few weeks at least, with a view that February half term may be the point when students return. No students, apart from those in our Special Provision should attend school;
- Summer examinations will now look different. We do not know what this means or looks like yet so it is crucial year 11 students maintain their focus and dedication no matter how hard it is to do so;
- Our Special Provision will continue in its current form. We will be surveying you today if you would like to change your current position on using the special provision;
- The NHS testing programme which we have been asked to deliver will continue to be rolled out (but not the mass testing element). We hope to test staff and those students coming into school for Special Provision and will write with more detail.

There are a lot of questions to identify and to answer and we will write to you later today, and continue to communicate over the next few days as our planning develops. Please continue to encourage your child to focus and engage with remote learning following the current plan and we will do our best to help in any way we can. We are in this together and we want to help.

Please liaise with your child's tutor or Head of Year in the first instance if you need support in any area.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Johnson', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

**Mr A Johnson**  
Headteacher