



31 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Return to School Arrangements – January 2021

I hope that you and your families have enjoyed a restful Christmas break.

I wrote to you when we broke up two weeks ago regarding the staggered return to school in January. You may also be aware that the Government has revised the previous advice from two weeks ago, which has made some of my previous communication outdated.

I am grateful for my colleagues in the wider leadership team who have given up their holiday time to unpick the latest Government advice and I would like to briefly outline the current arrangements for next week. I will provide a more detailed outline of the first few weeks of school to you early next week, once I have had further opportunities to discuss the Government advice with our wider staff team.

Monday 4th January: Whole Staff Inset Day (As originally calendared. No pupils in school)

WEEK 1 of Term - Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January: **NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL** unless they have scheduled examinations.

Years 10/11/12/13: We will provide online remote education from 5 January until 8 January as per students' normal timetable. This will be as close as possible to the education that your child would receive if they were in school. All work will be set for students on Google Classroom (as communicated on the 18th December).

Years 7-9: We will provide online remote education from 5 January until 8 January on a slightly reduced timetable of 3 lessons per day. All work will be set for the students via Show My Homework (as communicated on the 18th December). *Our online offer for Key Stage 3 will increase to more closely match our Key Stage 4 and 5 offer in week 2 and I will update you on this early next week.*

Year 12 and 13 examinations

All scheduled external examinations will continue as per Government advice. Pupils will be expected to attend these examinations - please look out for further advice regarding timings and how to enter the school for these exams.

Vulnerable students and students of critical workers

From Tuesday 5 January students who have parents that are critical workers, or students who are vulnerable, will attend school as normal, definition of a critical worker can be found [here](#).

If you are critical worker and have a need for your son/daughter to attend school from 5 January, please register at <https://www.hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk/criticalworker> by 8am on Monday 4 January. Can I please ask that parents carefully consider if this support is required. For parents/carers of vulnerable students, school leaders will make contact with families on Monday 4 January regarding attendance at school.

Our key priority as always is to keep the Hayesbrook Community as safe as possible and we will be undertaking mass testing of staff and students when people return to school. All of our procedures will continue as they have since they were put in place earlier this academic year (e.g. year group bubbles, wearing of face masks in communal areas etc). These have largely been successful within the school so far and has minimised disruption to the education we have been able to offer.

In order to carry out testing of students we require parental permission for children under the age of 16, children who are 16 or over are able to give self-consent to have a test. Can you please complete the consent form via the link [here](#) so that we are able to organise our testing program. Further details will be sent next week outlining the testing procedure that will be in place. In the meantime, please see link [here](#) for information about lateral flow tests.

We would really like to hear from any parents or members of the community who would be able to support the school with the mass testing program. Being a small school does mean that we have limited staffing to be able to carry out the testing and any support from our parents would be extremely helpful to us. If you feel that you would be able to help us please contact Nicki Young as a matter of urgency using the email address youngn@hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk.

I can only apologise for the changes that have been made to original communication on the 18th December. I will contact you again next week with a further update and hope that no further significant changes will have been made to the Government guidance we are in receipt of.

I continue to be proud of the resilience of your sons/daughters and my staff in dealing with the challenges we have had to face in 2020. I know that this will continue through to 2021 and I look forward to continuing to support you and your families in achieving the very best for our students.

Yours sincerely



Sebastian St John
Head of School