

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Announcement by the Secretary of State (17<sup>th</sup> December)**

As you may have read schools were advised of an announcement regarding new government guidance that was released on the afternoon of Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. You may read this guidance [here](#).

### **Testing in schools**

The government have announced that schools will have access to testing for staff and students. Plans are in place for school to facilitate this and further details will be released in due course.

Guidance will shortly be provided to schools on how to set up and staff the testing sites. Testing will be optional but strongly encouraged, particularly in areas of higher prevalence of the virus. Consent will be required from the student or parent as appropriate.

### **Staggered return**

The government has announced that **schools will operate a staggered return**, offering all non-exam year groups remote education during the first week of term, with face-to-face education for all starting on 11<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Phase One: Students starting from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

This means that the following groups will be eligible to attend school from **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**:

- **Students in Year 11 and 13**
- **Children of key workers**
- **Vulnerable children**

### **Phase Two: Students starting from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

This means that the following groups will be eligible to attend school from **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**:

- **Students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12**

Between Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January students in these year groups will have access to remote education provided by class teachers. The first day of remote education will be **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**.

**Secondary:** 01604 669200 **Primary:** 01604 669210 **Website:** [www.ccs.northants.sch.uk](http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk)

**Principal:** David James **Vice Principals:** Andrew Fisher Katherine Patterson Gary Wakefield

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**The Wooldale Centre for Learning, Wootton Fields, Northampton NN4 6TP**

## Live Lessons

All students will have access to live lessons from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January via MS Teams. It is essential that students have access to **MS Teams** to be able to participate in lessons.

- Students will follow their timetable (WEEK B)
- Students will participate in five lessons per day
- We will not be delivering live lessons in Drama or Music due to the nature of these subjects and students should use this time to complete work from their other lessons.

## Format of the Lessons

- All lessons will include live teaching
- Lessons may also include a range of different approaches to student learning such as video tutorials, independent work, quizzes, question and answer sessions, modelling etc.

We expect all students to attend at the allocated time and we will keep registers of attendance to each lesson. If a student is unable to attend a live session, they will be asked to inform us via the school office.

We will be recording all live lessons for families who need the extra flexibility, and these recordings will be posted to the MS Team Channel that already exists for every teaching group.

The expectation would not be that students are in front of a screen for the entire time. The format for each lesson will be a **minimum 30 minutes of teacher input** followed by independent work and a requirement to submit their work or complete a low stakes assessment. In some subject's teacher input may be higher than 30 minutes and we will adapt our approach to suit the needs of our students.

Due to these last-minute changes and the additional workload this has created we have taken the difficult decision to postpone the planned Tutor and Parents virtual meetings that were planned for the first few weeks of the term.

We will be in contact with you early in the January term to confirm when they have been rescheduled to. In the meantime, where our tracking data indicates that there is a concern with the progress or performance of a student the teacher will be contacting parents to discuss the issue.

Thank you for your understanding and if you do have any concerns in the interim then please do not hesitate to contact Progress Leaders.

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I would like to extend my best wishes for you and your family over Christmas. I can reassure you that we will continue to do everything in our power to reduce disruption to your child's education.

Yours faithfully,



Andy Fisher

Vice Principal