



Ashton Community Science College

'a school to be proud of'

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Dear Parent/Carer

They say a week is a long time in politics. It seems to be even longer when you add a pandemic into the mix.

You will recall that I wrote to you on 18th December outlining our plans for the return to school in January. Yesterday's announcement by the government, which placed Lancashire into tier 4 and pushed back the opening of schools, has resulted in some changes to those well laid plans of the 18th December.

Here are the updated plans for January:

Monday 4th January – school will be closed to **all** students to enable preparation and training for the proposed rapid flow testing

Free school meal food parcels for eligible children will be available to collect from school from Monday 4th January after 12.15pm from the main reception.

Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th January – school is open to vulnerable students and children of critical workers only. No other students will be in school. Children who fall into this category should report to The Hive at 8.40am each morning. They should bring their own headphones in from home if possible, so that they can access online learning via The Oak National Academy and other online platforms used by school such as Hegarty Maths, Bedrock and Seneca. They should also bring in a packed lunch each day, or let us know if they are free school meal eligible and a packed lunch will be provided.

If you are a critical worker and your child requires a place in school, you must inform us before 3pm the previous day on the school telephone number at the top of the page or by emailing their Progress Leader via yearX@ashtoncsc.com replacing the X with their Year group. For example Year 7 would be - Year7@ashtoncsc.com. This will allow us to ensure adequate accommodation and supervision is provided.

Year 10 and 11 students only will have access to remote education via Teams. This will take the form of live lessons delivered by teachers and work uploaded to complete independently. Attendance to online learning is compulsory. Lessons will begin at 9am and follow the normal year



group timetable, with the exception of form time and core PE, which will not be delivered remotely. Some students in **year 10** have a **creative imedia exam** scheduled for 11th January. We have been informed by the exam board that this exam will take place as scheduled.

Years 7-9 students will not have access to live remote education via Teams, but they can access all online platforms including The Oak Academy, Hegarty, Bedrock and Seneca. Online learning during this week is optional for these year groups. However, it is a good opportunity to ease back into school work at a more leisurely pace, catch up or consolidate prior learning and prepare for the half term ahead.

Week beginning Monday 11th January 2021 – school is open to year 11, vulnerable students and children of critical workers only. Year 10 students who are sitting the creative imedia exam will also be in on the day of the exam. Further information will be sent to individual students in due course.

Year 11 students should line up on the tennis courts by 8.35am and will be accompanied into school by their form tutors.

Vulnerable students and children of critical workers should go straight to The Hive at 8.35am.

Years 7-10 Students not attending school should access their learning remotely. Lessons for students learning remotely will follow the usual school timetable, commencing at 9am and concluding at 2.45pm. Attendance to this online learning is compulsory. Lessons will begin at 9am and follow the usual school timetable, with the exception of form time and core PE, which will not be delivered remotely.

Week beginning Monday 18th January 2021 – school will open as usual to all students. Attendance is compulsory for all, and those who cannot attend due to illness or self-isolation should access learning resources online. Live lessons will not be the norm from 18th January because the majority of students are expected to return to school.

You will be aware that the government are rolling out mass testing via schools and I will write to you early next week with the details of this when further information is released to us. I do know that there is a parental consent form to be completed for those students who wish to take part, and this will be sent to you in due course, along with the full plans for testing, so you can make an informed decision about whether your child will engage with this plan.

Thank you for your support as always. The challenges of 2020 look set to continue into 2021, but by working together, I know we will meet them head on and keep our children at the heart of all that we do.

Yours sincerely



Miss S Asquith
Headteacher