



Update Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I trust you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break despite the limitations placed upon us all by the pandemic.

As we move towards the start of the spring term I would just like to clarify one or two things with you regarding the return to school and the testing programme that is set to be rolled out across the education sector in January.

Many of you, I'm sure, will have been watching the news over the last week or so, especially in regard to the opening of schools in January. Although things are changing daily in relation to the pandemic the most recent Department for Education guidance in relation to students returning to school is quite clear and Oswaldtwistle School, as an 'Alternative Provision', is expected to **open to all students** at the beginning of the Spring Term.

Undoubtedly you will also be aware of the government's wish to roll out a National Covid -19 Testing Programme across all secondary age school settings in an attempt to keep as many pupils and staff in school as possible and to help minimise the spread of the virus. Although we are in full support of this programme, with testing kits due to arrive in school on Monday 4th January, we do not underestimate the amount of time, training and effort this will require if the system is to be fully operational by 8th January. As a result, we will be taking advantage of the DFE's offer of a 'logistics day' in order to facilitate work in this area, which I'm sure you will appreciate. This has been organised for Monday 4th January and as such the school will not be open to students on this day. Taxi companies have been notified accordingly and will routinely transport you child to and from school as per normal, starting 5th January.



Monday's lessons are available for all pupils on Teams via the school on-line Home Learning platform ([Click Here](#)).

Can I also remind you that face masks are still compulsory in all communal areas in school and as such ask that you continue to support us on this front by doing your best to ensure that your child leaves for school with an appropriate face covering/mask.

In closing may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and safe 2021.

We look forward to warmly welcoming all our students back on **Tuesday 5th January**.

Best wishes,

Sandra McKenna
Acting Headteacher