



23 December 2020

Dear Year 7 parents and carers,

## Re. Children of 'Critical Workers'

From our return on Tuesday 5 January, the vast majority of Year 7 children will be asked to work from home using online learning. This will minimise the potential spread of the virus and allow the school to prepare for Lateral Flow Testing on site.

The children of front line workers ('critical workers') who do not work from home, there will be a limited offer of supervised places at school. These places will be in 'year group bubbles' and will be supervised by support staff. Children will work in computer rooms so they can complete the same online lessons as their peers.

For children who take up their place at school, the site will be open from 08.25 until 14.55. Please do not arrive earlier as we will not be able to offer supervision until this time. To ensure your child can engage in the lessons seamlessly, **please send your child to school with his/her own headphones**. Break and lunchtime will operate as usual. Children may choose to access the school canteen or bring a packed lunch. If your child is entitled to free school meals, these will be available as usual.

If you wish to apply for a **Critical Worker Place** for your child, you must complete the registration form that will be texted to you in the **week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> December**. It is crucial that you do not send your child to school without registering them for their place due to the safeguarding risk that this could pose.

As teaching staff will be delivering online lessons to students at home, all students will engage in these remotely – via their device. Similarly, students on site will work in a computer room in their 'supervised bubble' with support staff and children will be working on school computers. We are limited in places by the number of computers on site in any 'bubbled zone'. Therefore we ask that you only register your child if you physically go out to work as a key worker and do not work from home. While we understand the difficulties in working from home with your child also at home, we must prioritise places for front line workers who would otherwise have no supervision for their child.

Please do not assume that completing the registration form guarantees a place at school. While we will do our very best to accommodate all children where places are requested, if we reach our capacity we will have to apply criteria to prioritise.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Phillips

Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead