



31 December 2020

Dear parents, carers and guardians,

We heard yesterday of the government's decision to escalate the status of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole to Tier 4, due to the level of risk that the local level of infection represents. Tier 4 is described as a 'stay at home tier' as is explained in the [Tier 4](#) guidance. However, the Local Authority has reminded us that as new information may be forthcoming, we may need to update you as this situation changes. For now however, here is a simple summary, with an explanation below:

Monday 4 January	School is closed to all students Lateral Flow Testing planning and training commencing in school
Tuesday 5 - Friday 8 January	On line lessons for all students Identified students will be provided for in school (determined by the school)
Monday 11 – Friday 15 January	Year 11 and Year 13 students to attend school Identified students will be provided for in school (though IT constraints will be limited by exam classes)
Monday 18 January	Intended return date for all students, though this may be affected by the roll out of government plans for testing

Mr. Williamson has decided that examination year groups in Years 11 and 13 will return for face to face learning on 11 January with remote education being provided for these groups from 5 January. For all other year groups, face to face teaching will start on 18 January with remote education also being provided from 5 January.

Students who have been busily preparing for internal examinations, your efforts will not be in vain. Please see the attached letter from Mr Lean which outlines the impact upon the school's assessment schedule and the guidance that he has provided.

In the last week, colleagues have been working hard to implement plans for the new Lateral Flow Testing. While this feels disruptive, the benefits to sustained attendance will be significant. Consent forms and further advice will be with you shortly.

Students whose parents previously self-identified as 'critical workers who cannot work from home' (and where relevant, whose partner is also working away from home) are being asked to contact us regarding their eligibility. Other students have also been identified for on-site provision and will receive a call on Monday. These students will be provided with facilities so that they are able to access the remote education provided by staff.

If you are classified as a critical worker (parents/carers) whose work is critical to the current health crisis as outlined by the government: [critical worker link](#) and need your child to access this provision from Tuesday 5 January then please could I ask you to ensure that you once again express your request to the school before 3pm Sunday 3 January on the reception email: school@poolehigh.poole.sch.uk. This will be very helpful in shaping our planning for the start of term.

Thank you for your understanding once again. We know just how trying this changing situation is for busy families. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gray, Headteacher



31 December 2020

Dear Parents, carers and guardians

An important update to our January assessment programme

In light of the last-minute changes to the post-Christmas school phased return as announced by the government, I am writing to offer clarity around the assessment arrangements for students in each year group for the upcoming half term, but in particular for the first two weeks of January.

Year 7

- Year 7 are assessed at the end of the academic year, and are not affected.

Year 8

- The **year 8 mid-year examination week** will now move to the **25 January 2021**. This is one week later than planned. Assessment information will be used to refine our sets and streams.

Year 9

- The **year 9 mid-year examination week** will now move to the **18 January 2021**. This is one week later than planned. Assessment information will be used as the basis for GCSE Option decisions.
- The **year 9 parent evening** will move to **Thursday 25 February 2021**. This event will be online and further information will be provided two-weeks prior. GCSE Options information will also be provided as part of this event.

Year 10

- The **GCSE Religious Studies** mock examination will now take place on **Wednesday 20 January 2021**. This is two weeks later than planned. All other information on examination timetable sheets will be observed (i.e., the room locations, seats, and examination starting times).
- The small number of students who are studying **BTEC Travel and Tourism** must still attend for their **real examination as planned on Friday 8 January 2021**. Students must arrive no later than **08:25** and report to **room 71a** for registration, where they will be settled in to their examination by Miss Wyatt.

Year 11

- The small number of students who are studying **OCR Child Development** will attend their **real examination as already planned on Wednesday 13 January 2021**. As Year 11 will be attending education on site from Monday 11 January 2021, this should be no change to original plans. Students should arrive to registration as normal.

Year 12

- The **year 12 mock examination week** scheduled for the week commencing 4 January 2021 has been moved to the **week commencing 18 January 2021**. All other information on examination timetable sheets will be observed (i.e., the room locations, seats, and examination starting times).
- All students who are scheduled to sit **REAL examinations in BTEC subjects** are advised that these are **continuing as planned**. Please note the details as below.

Date	Subject	Notes
Friday 8 January 2021 (PM)	BTEC Health & Social Care (Human Lifespan Development)	Students should arrive no later than 12:30 outside the M&M Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.
Tuesday 12 January 2021 (PM)	BTEC Applied Science (Biology)	Students should arrive no later than 12:30 outside the M&M Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.

Tuesday 12 January 2021 (PM)	BTEC Travel & Tourism	Students should arrive no later than 12:30 outside the M&M Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.
Wednesday 13 January 2021 (AM)	BTEC Applied Science (Chemistry)	Students should arrive no later than 08:40 outside the Sports Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team. We will arrange an isolated classroom for those of you who wish to stay on site before the afternoon examination (you will also be permitted to leave site and return for the afternoon exam if you wish)
Wednesday 13 January 2021 (PM)	BTEC Applied Science (Physics)	Students should arrive no later than 12:30 outside the Sports Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.
Friday 15 January 2021 (AM)	BTEC Sport Science (Anatomy and Physiology)	Students should arrive no later than 08:40 outside the M&M Hall which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.

Year 13

- The **year 13 mock examinations** scheduled for the week commencing 4 January 2021 have been moved to the **week commencing 18 January 2021**. All other information on examination timetable sheets will be observed (i.e., the room locations, seats, and examination starting times).
- The year 13 mock examination week for the week commencing 11 January 2021 will continue as planned.
- All students who are scheduled to sit **real examinations in BTEC subjects** are advised that these are **continuing as planned**. Please note the details as below.

Date	Subject	Notes
Wednesday 6 January 2021 (AM)	BTEC Business (Developing a marketing campaign)	Students should arrive no later than 08:40 outside the Diploma Base which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.
Friday 8 January 2021 (AM)	BTEC Business (Principles of Management)	Students should arrive no later than 08:40 outside the Diploma Base which is the examination venue. You will be registered and settled in to your examination by Mrs Nash or a member of her team.

All real BTEC examinations after this point will continue with our usual procedures as Year 13 students will be on-site from Monday 11 January 2021 as part of a normal week.

For those sitting real examinations for BTEC qualifications, should there be any doubt, the examination for all BTECs are taking place as previously planned and you must follow your examination timetable sheet.

Should there be any questions or concerns, please contact the relevant year group team in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Mr K Lean

Assistant Headteacher