



# ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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**Executive Headteacher:** John Barnes

**Head of School:** Graham Scott

4 January 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I trust that you have all had a great Christmas and my best wishes to you all for 2021.

As you will be aware, there have been some further changes announced by the government over the holidays which will affect how we operate as a school over the next few weeks. I am writing to you in an attempt to clarify as much as I can at this stage. I also sent a message to all students via Google classroom yesterday to highlight some key alterations. The most important aspects are as follows:

## **Current return to school dates**

Year 9 - Monday 18 January  
Year 10 - Monday 18 January  
Year 11 - Monday 11 January  
Year 12 - Monday 18 January  
Year 13 - Monday 11 January

Work will be set by teaching staff on Google Classroom from tomorrow (Tuesday 5 January) for students to complete. Please make sure that your child does this work, as the staff will be putting time and effort into creating these online lessons. Normal lessons will commence when your child returns to school, whenever that may be as above.

## **Provision for “Vulnerable and Key Worker Children”**

We will have a provision in place from Tuesday 5 January to Friday 15 January for students who have parents/carers who are key workers and some others who are eligible to attend. Parents/carers should complete the required google form if you want your child to access this provision. The key aspects of this provision are:

- Operating hours will be 9am - 3pm regardless of year group (except Wed week 1).
- The normal school timetable will be followed, with staff supporting students in an ICT facility. Students will complete online work set by their usual teachers.
- At the start of the day, students should make their way to the normal entrance point into school for their year group and head to the following rooms: Year 9 - A3, Year 10 - A12, Year 11 - B4 and Year 12/13 - A1.
- Full school uniform must be worn.
- A mask must be worn (unless medically exempt)
- Please check the arrangements for lunch provision in Mr Barnes' letter from earlier today.
- All year group bubble zones and procedures are still fully intact.



## **January External Examinations**

External examinations for Year 11 Travel on 8 January, Year 12 Health & Social Care on 11 January and Year 13 PE on 14 January will all go ahead as planned. Revision sessions will be organised by teaching staff. All students should make their way to the exam room (sports hall or exercise room) at least 15 minutes before the start of the exam around the outside of school. Year 11 students should be in full school uniform. Students should not bring mobile phones into the exam room or if they have to, they must bring a clear plastic bag, put their phone in it and place it on the table at the front of the exam room before the exam starts.

## **Sixth Form Trial Examinations**

These exams were due to start on Monday 11 January, however, they will now start on Monday 25 January. A new timetable will be issued very soon.

## **Covid Testing Regime**

As Mr Barnes said in his letter, we are currently working on our testing regime, which is likely to start on Monday 11 January. Over the next few days you will receive a Google consent form which we require you to complete for your child to be able to conduct the tests in school. If anyone is willing and able to assist us as a volunteer, then please contact Mrs Small.

## **Other key issues/dates**

Year 11 Parents Evening will be rescheduled. Further details to follow.

Year 9 Options Parents Evening will be rescheduled. Further details to follow.

Year 11 Maths and English Intervention will continue as planned beginning on Thurs 21 January.

When year 9 students return to school, they will have their break in the marquee and lunch in classrooms if they wish. However, this is dependent on good behaviour over the lunch period and not leaving a mess in classrooms as happened previously. Year 10 will have their break in the marquee and lunch in half of the dining hall.

For the moment, I think that just about covers everything. As always, if you have any questions or queries then please contact school and someone will be able to help. We will endeavour to keep you updated as best we can in an ever changing situation. Thank you for your continued support and best wishes.

Kind regards

Graham Scott  
Head of School