



31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents,

## **Urgent January Return Update**

As you receive this, we hope you, your families and friends are well and that you have had some joy, rest and recuperation this Christmas.

We are sorry to be contacting you on New Year's Eve but we thought you would appreciate further clarification on the updated arrangements for the start of the spring term in light of the Department for Education announcements yesterday.

### **Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January**

Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 will still be INSET days for staff to enable planning for the changes in provision. **School will be closed for all students on these days as per our previous letters.**

All students in Years 7 – 11 will now be provided with home learning via Classcharts in line with their usual timetable from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Vulnerable/high needs and critical worker children** in Years 7 – 11 will be given the opportunity to work in school (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday). If you believe your child needs to be added to this list, please email [enquiries@tarletonacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@tarletonacademy.org) and let us know why this is the case and the days the provision is required. We will be contacting families from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January if we have previously been made aware that this provision is applicable to your child.

### **Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January**

Year 11 will be expected in school from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January onwards. Classes will be split in their first week back to enable full 2 metre distancing, but the full curriculum will be delivered.

Our provision for vulnerable/high needs students and the children of critical workers will continue this week.

Years 7 – 10 will continue to work from home on their remote learning.

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**In addition:**

- In both these weeks, students normally in receipt of free school meals will be issued with Edenred vouchers.
- Buses will run for those students in school.
- All students working from home will receive wellbeing/motivational calls from our staff.
- As things currently stand, all students will be expected in school from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

We genuinely appreciate that all this ongoing disruption is hugely disappointing. We would always prefer to have our students in school, but we also appreciate that this action by the Government is to provide some kind of 'circuit break' for the transmission of the virus which is now rapidly spreading again.

**Testing in schools**

We are still to decipher fully the information we have received about testing in schools and we will send you an update in January once this is finalised. We will continue to respond positively to any initiatives which are for the benefit of our school and wider community, as and when they have been fully thought through and it is safe to do so.

**Our best wishes**

Finally, we would like to thank you once again for your support, patience and kindness. Your messages of support for what we have been doing continue to be very much appreciated.

We remain committed to making decisions in the best interests of the health and safety of everyone in school and in our communities.

Yours faithfully,

*Mr M Cunniffe*

Head of School