

RP/tb – 31 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you have been able to enjoy some rest and time with your family over the Christmas period and that you have all remained safe and well.

As we prepare to return to school, I would like to make you aware of the changes to the Government guidance in relation to secondary schools, which were updated on Wednesday 30th December. Although there are many details still to be clarified, I can confirm the following arrangements:

Monday January 4th

Monday remains an INSET Day, as previously planned. School will be closed to all students and there will not be any remote learning provision.

Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th January:

- School will be open only to vulnerable students and the children of essential workers whose parents have requested that they attend on those days. Any additional requests must be received by **12pm tomorrow** by completing the linked form - <https://tinyurl.com/yayry9kw>
- All other students, including those in Year 11 and 13 who were expecting to attend school under the Government's original plan, will be provided with a programme of remote learning.
- Students who have scheduled public examinations will be expected to attend them and will receive a separate letter next week with details of arrangements for the day.

Monday 11th to Friday 15th January:

- Year 11 and 13 students will return to full time attendance at school, following the same school day that has been in operation since September. These students will all be offered access in school to lateral flow testing for COVID-19.
- Vulnerable students and the children of essential workers whose parents have requested that they attend, will continue to be offered face to face learning in school every day.
- All other students will continue to be provided with a programme of remote learning.
- Students who have scheduled public examinations will be expected to attend them.
- We will send a further communication next week regarding the Year 11 planned mock examinations.

Monday 18th January:

- All remaining year groups will return to full time face to face learning in school and will be offered access to lateral flow testing for COVID-19.
- From this point forward, if the school receives notification that a student or member of staff has received a lab-confirmed positive test for COVID-19, identified close contacts will be offered a week of daily testing as an alternative to self-isolation. It is hoped that this will reduce the ongoing disruption to learning experienced by students, who in some cases have already been required to spend several periods of time self-isolating from school.

For any student who accesses other education providers, details will be confirmed early next week once we have been able to make contact and confirm if they remain open.

Remote Learning

Live lessons will be provided for all students via Microsoft Teams from Tuesday 5th January. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will follow a slightly modified timetable which will be shared with them on Monday. Students in other years will follow their usual timetables. All lessons will have a live introduction from a member of staff, with work set and support offered through Teams for the remainder of the 100-minute lesson. **Attendance to these lessons is compulsory.** If your child doesn't have access to a device or the internet to access these lessons, then please ensure that you have completed the online survey shared previously (<https://tinyurl.com/ycv9rnff>) so that we can provide support for you.

As part of the online learning offer, staff will be providing the usual lesson content and feedback during the lessons, so it is vital that students engage in a positive way. Any instances of poor behaviour will lead to students being removed from lessons following a warning and a phone call home will be made.

I will be in touch again early next week with further details, particularly in respect of the arrangements for testing and the consents which will be required for those students who will be taking part. Updated guidance from the Department for Education continues to be provided on a daily basis, at what is clearly a time when things are moving and changing at pace. It is clear the testing regime, whilst welcome, is going to provide a significant logistical challenge. If you feel able to support this process as a volunteer, please contact the school by email using the address: info@longeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk.

I hope that this has been a helpful update on the changes to our start of term arrangements. We are all extremely mindful of the lost learning time students have already faced and the challenges of home education. However, we must continue to follow the Government guidance and do everything possible to keep our school community safe.

I very much hope that 2021 will see the end of the measures that we have been forced to put in place and that we can all return to our normal lives as soon as is possible.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and prosperous 2021.

Yours faithfully
The Long Eaton School

R Peel

R Peel
Headteacher