

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

### Information about school reopening in January

Dear parents, carers and students,

I hope you have a safe, restful and enjoyable break. Once again I am sorry for writing to you to inform you of changes at late notice, however as you will be aware the Government yesterday announced a further change to school reopening plans.

From **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**, we have been instructed to only open school to the following students:

- Vulnerable children
- Children of critical workers.

As we informed you in the previous letter, if your child fits in any of the above categories school will look forward to welcoming them back to school on Monday morning. **Any student who is attending school should arrive in normal uniform, including with their own suitable face mask, and use their usual entrance.**

During the week of **4<sup>th</sup> January**, school will also be inviting in students who have exams during this week for a revision session and their exam. This involves a range of students in years 10 and 11 who are studying BTEC qualifications (exams scheduled for post 16 students will also take place and separate communication will be sent regarding this). **Students attending for revision or exams should arrive in normal uniform, including with their own suitable face mask, and use their usual entrance.**

Subject	Code on student timetable & teaching staff	<u>ATTEND</u> revision session	<u>ATTEND</u> for exam (exam start time)
BTEC L.2 CPLD/Childcare	QB1/Cd (LFR) QB2/Cd (VA)	Wed.6 <sup>th</sup> January 1.10-2.45pm	Thurs.7 <sup>th</sup> January 1-2.15pm
BTEC L.2 Travel & Tourism	QB1/Tt (CST/GR) QB2/Tt (HLA/GR) 10PB/Tt (NLI/CST)	Thurs.7 <sup>th</sup> January 1.10-2.45pm	Fri.8 <sup>th</sup> January 8.30-10am
BTEC L.2 Sport	QB2/Ss (SBU/HS)	Thurs.7 <sup>th</sup> January 1.10-2.45pm	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> January 1-2.30pm
BTEC L.2 Music	QB1/Mu (SRS)	Wed.6 <sup>th</sup> January 1.10-2.45pm	Thurs.7 <sup>th</sup> January 8.30am – 9.45am

From **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January** all other students should stay at home and school will be in touch during this week to communicate our plans to support your child through remote learning.

From **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, we have been asked to only open school and provide on-site education to vulnerable children, children of critical workers and those in exam years, and provide remote education to all other pupils. **This means we will be opening fully to all year 11 and year 13 students from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, as well as for select other students with exams in coming weeks. If your child is not in year 11 or

year 13 school will contact you to confirm if they are also expected in. All other students should stay at home and school will continue to support your child through remote learning.

From **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January** all students, in all year groups, should return to on-site education.

Over the next two weeks, school staff will be working hard to establish procedures for the mass testing for COVID in school for staff and students. The logistics of setting this up, getting access to the tests and training staff will take us some time and we hope by the time school fully reopens we will have finalised putting plans in place. Once this important planning has taken place, we will contact you with further information and to gather your consent for your child to take part.

Once again thank you for your understanding. I wish you a Happy New Year and we look forward to welcoming all our students back in to school by 18<sup>th</sup> January.

Please stay safe,



Mrs J Tiller  
Headteacher

**Definitions of 'vulnerable children'** (taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>)

**Vulnerable children and young people include those who:**

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
  - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
  - those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
  - those living in temporary accommodation
  - those who are young carers
  - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example, due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
  - care leavers
  - other children and young people at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

**Definitions of 'critical workers'** (taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>)

- **Health and Social care:** This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.
- **Education and Childcare:** This includes childcare, support and teaching staff, social workers, specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach.
- **Key public services:** This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.
- **Local and national government:** This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.
- **Food and other necessary goods:** This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).
- **Public safety and national security:** This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.
- **Transport:** This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.
- **Utilities, communication and financial services:** This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers, waste disposal sectors.