



17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Coronavirus Update 30**

I had not expected to be troubling you with another letter this side of the New Year, least of all one to set out new arrangements for the start of the new term. But the Government's announcement, covered in the news today, together with the outline plan that I received this evening, has made such assumptions out of date.

At this stage I have very little information beyond the public announcement that you will probably have heard for yourselves. All that I can do now is to pick out some certainties that you do need to know without delay.

#### **Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January**

The Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 11 will go ahead as planned. This is part of one of our published Teacher Training Days and the school is closed to all other students.

#### **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

Years 11 and 13 should attend as planned. They will follow their normal timetables.

Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 should remain at home (with certain exceptions) where they will receive their timetabled lessons on line. The exceptions are the children of critical workers and some students requiring additional support. These students will be accommodated and supervised in the school and will use computer facilities to follow the same on-line teaching as their classmates. We will be in touch before the start of term if we are expecting your son/daughter to attend.

#### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

The beginning of normal attendance for everyone.

You will also have heard about the Government's intention that schools should open COVID testing facilities on their sites. This is another subject on which we are promised further information and when it does come I shall be studying it with great interest. I trust it will help to resolve the many practical issues which have already come to mind.

I now know better than to suggest that this will be my last letter before Christmas. Nevertheless, it comes with my good wishes for a safe and happy celebration.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Waters