

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents

## Update to staggered start to the Spring Term – January 2021

I hope that this letter finds you and those around you well. Following the recent government announcement regarding the staggered start to the Spring Term, this letter provides for you the revised dates and arrangements for the start of term. As we navigate this unprecedented situation, we are thankful for your support. We will be writing to you in the New Year with further details regarding testing and how we will be doing this across our schools.

This letter outlines the arrangements that apply for all pupils, please pay particular attention to the dates and when your child should return to school.

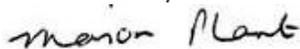
- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – All of our Academies are closed due to staff training.**
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January – All pupils including Year 11 will remain at home and work remotely with work set by our schools.** The following pupils are able to attend school and access on-site provision:
  - Vulnerable Children in Years 7-11. Your child's school will have already informed you if this applies to your child.
  - Keyworker children in Years 7-11. Provision will be available for your child if you have previously told us that you are a keyworker. If there has been any change to this, please contact the school your child attends.
- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**
  - **Year 11** will return to school for face-to-face teaching along with pupils sitting vocational exams in Year 10. Your child's school will inform you if this applies to your child.
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January – All pupils will be back in school.**

**It is absolutely essential that if pupils, or anyone they live with, develops any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (including a continuous cough, temperature or fever, loss/change in taste or smell) they do not attend school and self-isolate in accordance with the Government's guidance and be tested as soon as possible. It is vital that you inform us that they have symptoms and the outcome of the test they have. In addition:**

- In line with Public Health guidance, to prevent the transmission of Coronavirus, if your child is unwell (e.g., sore throat, or feeling really unwell, or muscle aches and pains), please keep them off school until they are feeling better. If they continue to be unwell and then develop a high temperature, loss or change in taste or smell or a new or worsening of a cough, then please self-isolate and get a Coronavirus test.
- **Your child must not attend school if they or someone in your household is awaiting a test result.**
- If someone in your household has a positive test, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 10 days and get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, we will inform you if your child needs to self-isolate. They do not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.
- **Your child must adhere to local restrictions for the tier where you live. Currently all of our schools are in tier 4.**

Thank you for your ongoing support. I wish you a happy New Year!

Yours sincerely



Marion Plant OBE  
Chief Executive Officer

