

Thursday 31 December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

As you may have seen, the arrangements for students returning to school in January have recently changed. I can confirm that:-

- Students whose parents are key workers will return from Tuesday 5 January 2021
- Students in Years 11 and 13 will return on Monday 11 January 2021
- Students in all other year groups will return from Monday 18 January 2021

I apologise for the change in these arrangements and having home educated my own children earlier in the year, I am aware of the challenges that this can present. Unfortunately, the number of cases in South Bucks are very high at present so whilst the later opening is disappointing, I would imagine that the week beginning 4 January would have seen several cases amongst our school community that would have caused a lot of disruption. I was concerned to note yesterday that Buckinghamshire declared a major incident due to the rise in Covid-19 cases, which means that local health services will be under very severe pressure over the coming weeks.

Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will have work set via Milk for the first week. Years 11 and 13 will have live lessons, via Teams, that replaces their in-school learning.

We will be contacting you over the coming week with further details re the proposed mass testing programme, including how you can give consent for your child to be tested. We will also have the resources to test staff regularly.

Please note that we have some discretion over which students we can invite into school from 5 January 2021. If you would like to consider this for your child, please contact Mrs Harding who will be able to discuss this further with you, her e-mail address is [aharding@beaconsfield.school](mailto:aharding@beaconsfield.school)

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals we will be in touch on 4 January 2021 and the school will be providing funds to cover meals for the days students are not in school. A small number of Year 12 students have public exams in the week beginning 11 January 2021. We will contact these students next week about how we will support them in advance of their exams.

I am hopeful that the recently approved Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine will provide a significant step forward in returning to normal life and I look forward to seeing our fantastic young people when circumstances allow. Whilst we may face an uncertain few weeks ahead, I know that the strength of our school is our community and that together we will rise to overcome these challenges.

I will be in touch by the end of next week to confirm arrangements for the week beginning 11 January 2021, including mass testing. Please do get in touch with me here at TBS if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support. With my very best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Tang  
Headteacher

