

18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Arrangements for start of next term, January 2021: Update

You will have heard today that Government has announced a staggered rollout of Coronavirus testing for secondary schools and colleges in the first week of January 2021.

Term begins on **4th January 2021**. However, the **only** groups who will be in school physically from **4th January 2021** will be **Year 11** and children of critical workers, where parents need this provision, plus vulnerable pupils. Year 7-10 children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils will access the remote lessons in school.

All other pupils will be provided with remote education for that week. The Government guidance states that face to face teaching will resume for these pupils from week beginning **11th January 2021**.

All lessons for students in Years 7-10 will continue to be delivered through our Teams remote learning platform. Students must access Microsoft Teams each morning from 8.30am to join their online tutor time session with their form tutors. Students must then follow their normal school timetable, accessing live lessons with their class teachers for each of the subjects they study throughout the week. Registers will be taken each period and so it is important that your child attend their online, live lessons.

Further support and guidance for remote learning can be found on the school website.

If your child does not have access to IT or internet facilities at home, please make contact with us on 4th January 2021 and we will support with this.

If you are a critical worker and there is the need for your child to come to school to access remote learning from St Anne's, please could you email us at admin@stannesacademy.org.uk before 28th December 2020 so that we can make appropriate provision and confirm back to you.

Parents of vulnerable children will be contacted directly.

Testing of Secondary Pupils

We do not have full details or guidance on this as yet, but we understand that secondary schools and colleges will be able to establish testing to offer students two rapid tests 3 days apart, with positive results confirmed by a lab-based PCR test. The first tests will be offered to Years 11 and 13 across the borough. Consent will be required from the student or parent, as appropriate. This consent will be additional to any consent that school already holds.

It will take some time to put this in place for such a large population of young people in our school and in the local authority. We will contact you again if any of the information changes so please ensure we have an up to date phone number and email address for you.

I am sorry I cannot be more specific now, but the guidance which has been released is limited. We have the support of the Cranmer Education Trust and Rochdale Local Authority and will let you know if anything changes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Heyes', written in a cursive style.

Mr C Heyes
Headteacher