



Starbank School

18th December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You may be aware that the Government has announced that there is to be a staggered start to the new term for pupils in secondary schools. This is one of the measures being taken nationally to try and reduce the spread of Covid-19.

This is not an extension of the school holiday. **All pupils will start their lessons on Tuesday 5th January**, but **some year groups will be working at home for one week**. As you are aware the school has an INSET day on Monday 4th January and therefore no students would have been on site.

The arrangements are as follows:

Week commencing 4th January

School will be open to all pupils in Year 11 on Tuesday 5th January 2021

School is open to the children of key workers and to vulnerable children in all year groups on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

If you are a key worker, please notify the school by email keyworkers@starbank.staracademies.org

no later than Tuesday 29th December in order that we know who will be attending on site.

We will contact you if your child is considered to be vulnerable.

All other pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 will learn at home. Their teachers will deliver lessons via MS Teams. Please ensure that your child logs on punctually for their lessons, which will follow the school's usual timetable. Your child should also continue with their own reading.

Week commencing 11th January

School will be open to all pupils.

The Government is committed to rolling out a programme of testing for all secondary school pupils in January. All testing requires parental consent. I will write to you again when we have more information about how the testing programme will work and when it will commence. I hope that you will provide your consent in the interests of everyone's wellbeing.

Testing does not replace the need for extreme caution that should be taken during the holiday period. Please remind your child of the need to maintain social distance, wash their hands frequently for at least 20 seconds and the wear a mask in enclosed public spaces.

Thank you for your continuing support and very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Gaetano Ferrante
Principal

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