

30th December 2020

January Restart – Our Current Plans (have now changed!)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Maybe yesterday's letter was slightly premature. So, following today's announcement by the Government in light of rising numbers of positive cases and the increasing spread of the new variant, the dates for the re-opening of secondary schools across the country has changed:

Monday 4th January is an INSET day. The school is closed to all students.

From Tuesday 5th January. The school is **only** open to a student who is considered a child of a critical worker or a vulnerable child and for whom the online form has been completed (now available on the website – please complete by 3pm Sunday 3rd January). Please note that lessons will be in year groups and in computer rooms. Teams lessons will not take place this week but work will be set via the student hub except for Year 11 students who will access Teams lessons being delivered by staff.

Year 11 are now expected to work at home this week and access work via the student hub and Teams lessons. We intend to run an online Teams timetable for Year 11 matching their school timetable with the exception of core PE lessons and focus group lessons.

Year 7-10 are now expected to remain at home and my understanding of the Government's advice is that work will no longer be set for online learning this week. This is to allow schools to prepare for the Lateral Flow Testing processes that need to be put in place.

From Monday 11th January. Year 11 will return to school and lessons will restart in the classrooms. Years 7-10 will now be expected to work at home and access work via the student hub and Teams lessons. We intend to run an online Teams timetable for the year groups matching their school timetable with the exception of core PE lessons and some other exceptions.

From Monday 18th January. We expect all in-school teaching to resume. However, after listening to the Prime Minister, this may change if the number of positive cases does not decrease enough over the next few weeks.

Lateral Flow Testing

Early next week, we will publish information related to starting the Lateral Flow Testing process. As I understand it, we need to test each student twice before they return to school. Testing will start with Year 11 and then Year 10. Students will be required to attend school on a specific day and at a certain time in the day to take the test before returning home. We are aware that this will prove difficult for parents who do not live close to the school so we are trying to find a number of venues more local to our parents where we can carry out the first tests. To support this process, if any parent



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can volunteer to help with the testing over the next two weeks, this would be most appreciated. If you can offer any time, please contact the school via office@applemore.hants.sch.uk

Hopefully, this has provided enough information for you to start planning for the next few weeks. We have placed some documents on the school website and will continue to do so over the next few days dependent upon updates from the Government.

I look forward to welcoming all the students back to school (eventually) in 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Chipping', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Alan Chipping
Headteacher