



THE APPLETON SCHOOL

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Achieving Excellence



2nd January 2021

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have all managed to have a good Christmas break despite the current restrictions. Following the Secretary of State's for Education announcements on 30th December I thought it would be useful to email you to clarify what will happen at The Appleton School regarding students return.

The week beginning 4th January all teaching for all year groups is online. This begins on 4th January. Any students with BTEC or other formal exams this week they will go ahead as planned on site. Students **MUST** be in school for these examinations which count towards their final grades. Students must only come into school for the examination.

Vulnerable students (students who are fostered, on an Educational Health Care Plan, Free School Meal Students) and the children of key workers may attend school from 5th January. Please note if you choose to access one of these places you must have registered before 8am on 4th January. Please register using the email sent out on 23rd December. Students who are in school will work in the following areas during the first week:

Year 7 Resource centre enter by hall entrance and remain on this side of the Resource Centre.
Year 8 Resource centre enter by rotunda entrance.
Year 9 C13
Year 10 C12
Year 11 N1
Sixth form Sixth Form Block

Student break and lunch arrangements during this week will be as follows; years 7-10 in the Food Pod on discrete year group tables. All other years via the canteen on discrete year group areas.

Year 10 consultative is scheduled for Thursday 7th January 2021 and will go ahead online as planned. Please note this is the first time we have run a consultative on line and I would ask if you bear with us if there are any technical issues. Please note that the software we have purchased does end each session after 5 minutes. No sessions can be extended. This may be frustrating for staff and yourself if you are in mid-sentence!



On **Monday 11th January** years 11 and 13 will return to school and receive their normal timetable. Where exams are scheduled they will continue as planned. When year groups are not scheduled to be in school, exams will continue on line. We are informed that we will be receiving 1000 Covid tests on Monday 4th January. We are hoping to test as many staff and students as possible during the week prior to students being on site subject to the necessary consents being given. Therefore, it is likely that year 11 and 13 will be called into school at some point during the week beginning 4th January to administer these test. This is of course subject to their safe arrival!

On **Monday 18th January** the plan currently is for all year groups to return to physical learning. However, Castle Point has been placed in what is termed a Contingency Area. This means that the decision to have all students back on site is subject to review depending on the number of infections in the area. A national decision is expected on this prior to the 18th. At present I have no further details on this point.

Remote Learning - during last half term we carried out surveys with parents to record the students who did not have access to laptops. We do not have enough laptops to meet the demand but we will be issuing the ones we have on loan on 4th and 5th January.

I hope this email has provided you with the detail you need to plan for the next couple of weeks. As soon as we have any further details I will write once more to parents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'K. Kerridge', written in black ink.

Mrs K Kerridge