



Headteacher: Mr N. Holder
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18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, the government have made several announcements this week regarding education. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a few things you need to know ahead of the new term.

Return to the Academy in January

Yesterday, at the end of the Academy day, the Department for Education instructed schools to stagger the return of their students in January. Please follow this link for the information released:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>

The government asks that **vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and pupils in exam year groups** (for us, **Year 11**) are expected to attend school as normal, on site on the advertised first day of term. Therefore, our Year 11 students and those students defined as above, will return to school on **Tuesday 5th January**.

Students in Year 11 and those students who are vulnerable or are the children of critical workers should arrive at school at their normal entrance and at their normal time. A reminder of these arrangements are outlined at the end of this letter. Students must return to school in full Academy uniform.

Parents and carers of vulnerable students or those who are critical workers should email the Academy on enquires@farringdonca.net prior to 5th January 2021 to notify the Academy of their child's expected arrival on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

All other students in **Years 7 – 10** will be expected to **work from home** from **Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th January 2021**. Students must follow their normal timetable and access their lessons via Office 365 Teams. Most students have already accessed our remote learning platform Teams and all students have been trained to be able to log on and participate in online learning. Student have also been issued with two Home Study exercise books to use when completing their work at home.

If your child is unsure how to access their lessons and learning via Teams, please use the following link to our 'How to' guide for step-by-step support: <http://www.farringdonschool.co.uk/index.php/students/student-links/home-study-how-to>

All students will be expected to return to the Academy onsite for face to face learning on **Monday 11th January 2021**. Again, please ensure your child arrives in full Academy uniform at the time and entrance gate they are expected to arrive at.

Testing

You may also be aware that the government has announced that all schools with secondary-age students will be offered the opportunity to test their students from the beginning of the new term. Due to the short notice given and the lack of clarity around this at present, I will write to you again in the New Year to share with you our plans for this going forward.



I apologise that you are receiving these updates so late at the end of, what has been, a very long and challenging term for us all. I hope this letter serves to provide clarity to you regarding the plans for our return in January and I hope it leaves you with enough time to make arrangements for childcare, if required. If you do have any question at all about anything outlined in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy via email on enquires@farringdonca.net and we will reply as promptly as possible.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support through these difficult times and wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Mr N Holder

Student arrival arrangements:

Year 11: Allendale Road (onsite for 8:25am)

Year 10: Moorside gate (onsite for 8:35am)

Year 9: Allendale Road (onsite for 8:35am)

Year 8: Moorside gate (onsite for 8:25am)

Year 7: Front of Academy gate (onsite for 8:25am)