

Monday 4 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write further to my letter of [31 December](#) to ensure that you are clear with the current arrangements for the coming weeks, and to outline, in summary, the routines to expect in terms of the Remote Learning we will provide for students. Of course, we will update you as quickly as possible should there be any further announcements from HM Government that have any impact on these arrangements.

Staggered Return

From tomorrow, Tuesday 5 January, only vulnerable children and children of critical workers are able to attend school on site. We have written separately to respective families who require on-site provision for their children to confirm arrangements and attendance. Whilst the Secretary of State for Education has [stated](#) that only students in exam year groups (i.e. Y11 and Y13) are expected to be provided with remote education this week, we are providing all students with such.

From Monday 11 January until Friday 15 January, provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers continues, and students in Y11 and Y13 return. Students in Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12 will be provided with remote education. All students return on Monday 18 January.

School Transport

Devon County Council School Transport have confirmed that all school transport will run as normal for those students we are expecting to attend provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers this week and next, and for all Y11 and Y13 students next week. Should there be any changes to this we will of course notify you.

Free School Meals

All students eligible for free school meals will be provided with a food parcel for the weeks they are not in school. We are contacting eligible families separately to arrange collection or delivery.

Device Provision

Families who requested the loan of the device, or support with the provision of data via our 'Home Remote Access Audit (December 2020 update)' survey and who have not yet been contacted will be contacted as soon as possible. If you wish to contact the school directly for support, or to chase up anything, please use do so via datacheck@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk.

Remote Learning

- 1 Teachers will provide 'lessons', i.e. learning activities for students to undertake at home, according to students' scheduled timetable, and post such on Class Charts marked as 'blended learning'. Lessons will be set and due on the same day, i.e. the day of the lesson they replace.
- 2 To help students and families navigate, Teachers will ensure that each Remote Learning lesson will be posted on Class Charts with a standard heading, for example:

Remote Learning | Tuesday | 05/01/2021 | Mathematics

- 3 Remote Learning lessons will follow the planned curriculum and last as follows:
 - Lesson 1 (periods 1 and 2) arranged in two sections, lasting 45-50 minutes each.
 - Lesson 2 (periods 3 and 4) arranged in two sections, lasting 45-50 minutes each.
 - Lesson 3 (period 5) lasting 45-50 minutes.
- 4 Teachers will provide concise advice and information to guide students through each Remote Learning lesson. As such, teachers will ensure that the following elements to support progression are evident in Remote Learning lessons:

Explanation / modelling

- Lessons will incorporate an element of direct instruction, e.g. through a recorded video or — particularly for Y11 and Y13 students — through an element of 'live' contact.
- Explanations will build clearly on students' prior learning or on how students' understanding could be subsequently assessed.
- Explanations will be given before exercises.

Independent activity

- Activities will provide progressive, scaffolded cognitive demand, with prompts for students to consider the strategies they will use if stuck.
- Low stakes quizzes or tests may be used.

Opportunity to reflect and check

- Proxies for feedback will be provided such as model answers, solutions.
- Students will be prompted with questions / tasks to reflect on their work.

- 5 Engagement will be monitored by Teachers and Subject Leads.
- 6 Teachers will routinely set an activity that requires submission to permit review and feedback through subsequent Remote Learning lessons.
 - Types of submission will depend on the work being set and could be via a photo of work being uploaded, or completion of an online quiz / test, or completion of work through one of the platforms used.

Any issues regarding logging in, e.g. to Class Charts and the various learning platforms used by respective subjects, should be directed to datacheck@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk, where a member of our IT team will be able to support and troubleshoot.

Maintaining contact

To check on your child's wellbeing, see how they are accessing their remote learning and offer any support, tutors will be contacting home on a weekly basis by phone or by email. Please do respond to any contact — and encourage your child to respond to any emails they receive — so that we know all is well. If there are any problems, do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor to seek guidance and support.

Rapid-result testing in schools

We will write to you again in the next day or so to provide you with more information and detail about the actual tests being used, the testing process and to explain the changes as a result to isolation regulations and requirements etc. We will also check again regarding your consent.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information. As ever, keep safe, and keep looking after yourself and each other.

Yours sincerely,



Derrick Brett (Principal).



Important

Advice for schools

CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN

A CHILD WHO DEVELOPS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A POTENTIAL CORONAVIRUS CASE:



NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)



FEVER (TEMPERATURE OF 37.8°C OR HIGHER)

The child will also feel hot to touch on their chest or back



A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

this means the child has noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

MOST CHILDREN WITH CORONAVIRUS HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SYMPTOMS.



If a child is unwell with one or more of these specific symptoms they should be told not to come into school or sent home as soon as possible and advised to get a coronavirus test. **ONLY** those children with one or more of these symptoms or those advised by their clinician or Local Authority should get a test.



Children reporting other symptoms such as a headache, sore throat, runny or sniffly nose, earache, itchy eyes, lethargy or tiredness **WITHOUT** a fever should **NOT** be treated as potential coronavirus cases or advised to take a test.

If the national guidance on symptoms of coronavirus in children changes, updated information will be provided at a local level as soon as possible. This information about coronavirus symptoms in children can be shared with all school teaching and administration staff as well as parents and carers where necessary.












For further guidance on coronavirus testing for schools, please read the letter from PHE and NHS Test and Trace to school and college leaders at: bit.ly/phe-schools

CORONAVIRUS TIER 3

VERY HIGH ALERT

gov.uk/coronavirus

Around 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 have no symptoms so will be spreading the virus without realising. We must all take action to protect each other and our hospital capacity.

MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY  <p>No mixing of households indoors, or most outdoor places, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six in some outdoor public spaces (e.g. parks, public gardens).</p>	BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS  <p>Hospitality is closed, with the exception of sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery.</p>	RETAIL  <p>Open.</p>	WORK AND BUSINESS  <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p>
EDUCATION  <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	INDOOR LEISURE  <p>Open. Group activities and classes should not take place.</p>	ACCOMMODATION  <p>Closed (with limited exceptions)</p>	PERSONAL CARE  <p>Open.</p>
OVERNIGHT STAYS  <p>We advise against overnight stays other than with household or support bubble.</p>	WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS  <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships and wakes; 30 for funerals. Wedding receptions not permitted.</p>	ENTERTAINMENT  <p>Indoor venues closed.</p>	PLACES OF WORSHIP  <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
TRAVELLING  <p>Avoid travelling outside your area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply. Reduce the number of journeys where possible. Plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble.</p>	EXERCISE  <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but people should avoid higher-risk contact activity. Group exercise activities and sports indoors should not take place, unless with your household or bubble. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p>	RESIDENTIAL CARE  <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p>	LARGE EVENTS  <p>Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted.</p>

For support and more information visit:
gov.uk/coronavirus

