



Bishop David Brown School

Vision Statement

"To be an outstanding school, providing a stimulating educational environment enabling students to achieve their full potential."

31st December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may have seen in the news that the government has recently announced a staggered return for secondary aged students at the start of the new term.

On the week commencing 11th January Year 11 students will be expected to return to school. At this point we will introduce the national testing programme as I mentioned in my letter prior to the Christmas holiday.

As far as we know, at present the summer exams will go ahead. I will, of course, update Year 11 parents as soon as we have confirmation of this.

The government has stated that secondary aged students not in examination year groups should remain at home accessing remote learning. Therefore students in Years 7 through to 10 will return to school on Monday 18th January. I appreciate that this news may cause inconvenience, we are acting on national guidance and all secondary schools are having to implement the same measures.

Within this new guidance, vulnerable children and the children of critical workers are expected to access on-site education provision from the start of term, in our case Monday 4th January onwards. If you believe your child is in one of these groups please contact Sara Ripley via email sripley@bdb.surrey.sch.uk.

We have been directed by the government to use this time at the start of term to assess if implementing mass testing for Covid-19 is viable and if so undertake the necessary planning to put this in place. I mentioned earlier we still await the finer details from the government. What we do know is that the government's aim is to minimise disruption during the Spring Term by helping identify positive cases when students return to face-to-face education following the Christmas break. We have been told that all secondary aged students and all staff will be eligible. While testing will be optional, we have been told to strongly encourage both staff and students to take part. To reassure parents/carers we will not ask your child to participate in testing without your consent. We are led to believe that those students returning to education first will be the first to be offered the test, however no details of this have been confirmed to date.

Thank you to the many parents and carers who contacted me prior to the Christmas holiday offering support with the administration of the national testing programme. Can I ask if anyone is willing to support this that they email myself or Sara Ripley.

I will continue to update you as and when we receive further updates. However I feel it is vitally important that students continue to be actively encouraged to maintain the high standards of hygiene and social distancing implemented since September in order to stop the spread of infection.



Unity Schools Trust

'Excellence through collaboration'

Bishop David Brown School is operated by the Unity Schools Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07692130. The Registered Office is at Thorpe Road Staines-upon-Thames TW18 3HJ.

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For students in Year 7 through to 10 remote education will be provided through resources available via Microsoft Teams and the VLE. Students should follow their usual timetable and endeavour to hand in all of their work, which will be set as assignments with a deadline, so that their teachers can check it has been completed. Students should access work from Monday 4th January.

If you experience issues accessing Microsoft Team or the VLE classroom or your child requires paper packs to work from, can I ask that you contact your child's Head of Year.

Year 7	Mr Dan Roberts	droberts@bdb.surrey.sch.uk
Year 8	Ms Christina Simmons	csimmons@bdb.surrey.sch.uk
Year 9	Ms Jeanette Stonehouse	jstonehouse@bdb.surrey.sch.uk
Year 10	Miss Sam Broad	sbroad@bdb.surrey.sch.uk
Year 11	Mrs Chelsea Cordiner Mr Justin David	ccordiner@bdb.surrey.sch.uk j david@bdb.surrey.sch.uk

We will be completing home visits to check on students' progress with the work and checking on their well-being. In addition to the online support for students in Years 7-10 we will also be asking From Tutors and other staff to make calls home to check on your child's progress and their well-being.

No doubt the situation will change and I will write to you with further updates when I receive them. Thank you for your continued understanding, patience and support

Yours sincerely

James Rodgers
Head of School



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