

Friday, 18 December 2020

Dear Parents,

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START OF SPRING TERM

It seems only a few days ago I wrote to you with what we thought were our final arrangements for the end of term and the start of the Spring term. The week has not yet ended and I write to you again further to changes from the DFE. I would like to thank you for your understanding of and hope this letter helps to keep you informed.

The DFE announced on Thursday 17th December that secondary schools and colleges will operate a staggered return, offering all non-exam year groups full-time remote education, as close as possible to that which students would get in class, during the first week of term, with face-to-face education for all starting on 11 January. With that said, we are likely to open from the 4th January for only years 11, 12, 13 and some other students including children of key workers.

Please note, this letter contains several hyperlinks for you to click to access further information or to provide us with information we require from you.

The Spring Term starts on Monday 4th January 2021 for ALL students.

Following the announcement by the government on Thursday 17th December about a staggered start to the Spring term, please read the revised schedule below:

Years 11, 12 and 13:

1. Students will be **taught in school**. Years 12 and 13 have [mock examinations](#) until Friday the 8th of January.
2. Students in Years 12 and 13 who have an exam (Criminology, Geography and Pure Maths) need to be at school by 8:50am for the start of their exam at 9:00am.
3. Other Year 12 and 13 BTEC students must arrive at 10:00am for a 10:10am start to lessons.
4. Year 11 students must arrive at 10:30am for a 10:40am start and at 9:00am from Tuesday onwards.
5. Plans for students in Years 11, 12 and 13 remain unchanged. The Heads of Year have communicated with the students in their year group. All year groups will be taught in school the week commencing Monday 11th January and beyond.

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10:

1. Students will be **taught remotely on Microsoft Teams**. ([Remote Learning Information](#))
2. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will need to log in by 10:00am every morning starting from Monday 4th January and respond to the registration question of the day. This will count towards their attendance mark and the normal DFE attendance requirements apply.
3. [Remote learning](#) (combining live lessons and online set tasks) will continue for the whole week.
4. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will return to Rooks Heath School on Monday 11th January to be taught in school unless the guidance changes.

If your child has no access to a computer or the internet, please ensure that you have completed our survey below, so that paperwork can be prepared for collection during the first day back (a phone call will be made when the paper pack is ready for collection).

[Student Internet Access Survey](#)

We are currently finalising our arrangements for the onsite supervision of the children of key workers and those who have been recommended to attend on-site learning during the week commencing 4th January so that parents / carers can continue their invaluable work. Please contact the school and complete this short [survey](#) if you would like your child to be considered for this. Please do this by 9am on Monday 21st December if you would like to book a place. For all applications received by this date, you may assume you have a place and your child should arrive at school on Monday 4th of January at 10:30am unless you are contacted with an alternative plan.

Testing in schools:

The plans to introduce testing are also proposed. It needs to be made clear testing will be optional but is strongly encouraged by the DFE, particularly in areas of higher prevalence of the virus. Consent will be required from the student or parent as appropriate and we would not put pressure on families to be tested in school.

If your child is unwell or displaying COVID-19 symptoms, it is important that you do not send them to school.

Keep them home, inform the school by emailing contactus@rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk and arrange to have a test. Please report any absences in the normal way.

Please remember to look at our website to see information on our dedicated [Covid-19 page on website](#).

Once more, thank you for all your support and help during a very different 2020 for our community.
May I once again, wish you all a lovely festive season and a happy and healthy new year when it arrives.

Yours sincerely



Mrs M Manderson
Headteacher