

Dear Parent

Hopefully you will have heard the secretary of state's new guidance for the return of secondary schools for the spring term announced yesterday. Obviously, this means that we have had to revise our plans accordingly as set out below. **Year 11** will now not return to school properly until **Monday 11 January**. All other year groups (**7-10**) will return to school full-time from **Monday 18 January**.

In the first week whilst students aren't in the building, we will be planning our approach to the mass-testing regime which the government has asked all schools to implement for both students and staff. It is still early days at this stage but the ambition would be to invite all Y11 students in for their first test towards the end of w/b 4th Jan and then all other year groups come in for theirs over the course of week 2: 11-15 Jan. Either way, details will be sent out to parents in the first couple of days back such as consent forms and appointment slots for individual students so please check your emails as well as our website.

Arrangements for student-learning for first 3 weeks of term:

Week 1 (4-8 Jan) Period 1 for all year groups on Monday 4th January will be a PSHE lesson set on **Show My Homework (Satchel:one)**.

Then:

- All **Year 11** lessons will be delivered remotely via **Microsoft Teams**
- All **Year 10** lessons will be delivered live via **Microsoft Teams**
- All other year groups will be working from home but will be expected to follow their normal timetable for the day ie 5 hours of learning
- For **Years 7-9**, all of their **English, Maths and Science** lessons will be delivered **live online** through the school website using **Microsoft Teams**. All of their **other lessons** will be replaced by work set on **Show My Homework (Satchel:one)**.
- Year 8 exams will be postponed for the time-being

Week 2 (11-15 Jan)

Same as above except Year 11 will be back in school full-time following their normal timetable.

Weeks 3 (18-22 Jan)

All year groups back in school full-time as normal.

Remote-Learning (general information):

All students will be following their normal timetable each day and so should login via the school website for all of the live lessons at the appropriate times. Registers will be taken and parents of students who do not attend will be contacted by our attendance team. For everything else, they can access the work for the lesson via the SMHW App or through our website. There are also extensive links to remote learning lessons on our website and further guidance in the school newsletter which you should have received on the last day of term.

Students have been shown how to use **Microsoft Teams** and there is more information and guidance available from the homepage of our website, which also contains links to our remote learning pages and links to RMUnify. If you have any issues logging onto this or require technical support in relation to usernames or passwords for the school, please contact the academy via email at itdesk@parkvaleacademy.org.uk.

Any internet ready device, including a phone, tablet, laptop or computer, will allow you to log into the school system via our website and access **Microsoft Teams** for live lessons. We recommend the simplest way to access these will be from links sent to students via their school email or directly from their calendar in MS Teams.

Students should also regularly check their **school email** for information and communication from their teachers.

School meals and vouchers

For students who are not in school and who are in receipt of free school meals, a £15 Tesco voucher will be issued on Monday or Tuesday of w/c **4th January**.

Provision for children of critical workers and those with an EHCP in all year groups

This has previously only been advertised to parents of students in Years 7-10. However, Year 11 parents now affected by the revised plans for Week 1 may still register for this provision using the form below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=svRAecJqukWVZVvTgdjPcIOWvG0q0CJGkGCz5_3YmIdUN1EyMzE2MDFKRzBTOFQxVjdDVTM1UVNRUy4u

I hope that these last-minute changes do not cause you too much anxiety but obviously I wanted to share our revised plans with you as soon as possible given the short time-frame between yesterday's announcement and the start of term.

All the best to you and your families for the New (and hopefully improved!) Year,

Steve Bowhay

(Head Teacher)