

Alderbrook School

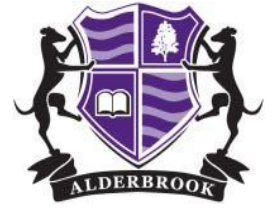
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BET/REK

18 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

In the last two days there have been announcements by the Government that will have a significant impact on the start of the new school term. Please read the information below carefully.

The government has announced a staggered start to the new term, with all year groups except Years 11 and 13 learning remotely for the first week of term, returning to school on Monday 11 January. Years 11 and 13 will be in school as normal from Monday 4 January. Please read the following instructions below.

Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 12

From Monday 4 January - Friday 8 January, students in these year groups will learn remotely from home. All work will be set on Microsoft Teams. If students are unable to access the work please contact itsupport@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk on 4 January and the IT department will help you with this. We have today distributed laptops to students we are aware do not have access at home, but please email IT support if you do not have access and we will make arrangements at the start of next term.

We will not be setting any work remotely on Monday 4 January. We hope you understand that due to the government announcement on this very late in the term, we will need the time to plan for this.

From Tuesday 5 January, students in these year groups should follow their normal timetable (it will be week 2 of the 2-week timetable) and work will be available on Teams at the normal time of each lesson. Where possible, teachers will deliver these lessons live so students should check if there is a live lesson at the time of each lesson. This may not always be pragmatic for some practical lessons, but work will be provided at the lesson time regardless. If staff are absent or unable to set any work, parents and students will be notified.

Please find attached our Remote Learning Agreement which we would like all parents/carers to submit. Could I ask that if you have not already completed this, you do so by reading this and



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clicking on the link in the document, so that we can work together to make sure students are working safely online.

All students will return to school as normal on Monday 11 January.

Vulnerable students and children of critical workers in Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 12

Vulnerable students and children of critical workers can attend school from **Tuesday 5 January** if necessary. They will have access to a computer suite where they will be able to complete the work and access lessons set by their teachers. Students in Years 7 and 8 with access to the ARC will have provision in the ARC.

If you are a critical worker, we ask that your child only attends if absolutely necessary. We will only have limited capacity due to COVID restrictions.

If you need to access this provision, please complete the Microsoft form which can be found [here](#).

Year 11 and 13

Year 11 and 13 will start school as normal on Monday 4 January. Year 11 will have their mock exams and Year 13 will attend lessons as normal.

Testing and return to school

The government has announced that it would like schools to offer asymptomatic testing to all Secondary students from January. Yesterday we received a handbook outlining the arrangements we need to put in place for testing staff and students and we will use this over the Christmas break to aid our planning. We are also expecting more technical guidance to be issued next week. We will now need to use the 4 January to understand the latest detailed arrangements for mass testing and to begin to put the arrangements for this in place, this will include communicating more details to you and requesting your consent. This will be a large logistical undertaking and we appreciate your patience with this.

Thank you for your continued support,

With best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher