



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

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Principal: Mr D Smith

31st December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Update to Changes to the Start of Term

Following an announcement from the Government yesterday, we have been told to make further changes to the start of term in January. The changes are in response to the increasing rates of Coronavirus and to accommodate a new system of testing which will hopefully reduce the amount of time which pupils and staff are asked to self isolate for when a positive coronavirus case is identified.

The revised guidance from the Department for Education indicates that:

- Year 11, 12 and 13 will now return to lessons on Monday 11th January 2021, **all external examinations will go ahead and students should attend as normal as outlined on their examination timetable.**
- Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will not return to lessons until Monday 18th January 2021 but we plan to continue to provide remote learning from Tuesday 5th January 2021 onwards.
- Priority group provision will be maintained and available from Tuesday 5th January 2021. This provision will be year group based. Where the children of Critical Workers need to attend this provision **please email stating the child's name and with Priority Group Provision in the subject line to postbox@bluecoatacademy.org by midday on Monday 4th January 2021.**

We are updating our plans for remote learning and will send out further information as soon as possible, along with details about coronavirus testing. This is clearly a rapidly developing situation, please check the school website regularly for updates: www.bluecoatacademy.org

I appreciate that these changes may cause some inconvenience and disruption and can only apologise for the late notice. The announcement was made yesterday afternoon but I only received confirmation and outline guidance from the Department for Education last night.

Yours faithfully,

D. Smith
Principal

