

18th December 2020

C/O Wellsway School, Chandag Road
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Chief Executive: Andrea Arlidge

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to explain the arrangements for the start of the new term at SBL Academy following the government announcement yesterday about the staggered rollout of coronavirus testing for secondary schools and colleges from the first week of January 2021. This announcement included the requirement for secondary schools to open only for certain groups of students in the first week back, with all students returning to school on Monday 11th January 2021.

At SBL Academy, the following arrangements will apply:

1. Only the following students should return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021:
 - All students in Years 11 and 13
 - Children in all year groups who are deemed to be vulnerable
 - Children in all year groups whose parents/carers are critical workers
2. All other students will be given remote education during the first week of term. These students should return to face-to-face provision in school on 11th January 2021
3. Vocational exams scheduled for the week of 4th January will go ahead as planned

If your child has been identified as vulnerable, we will contact you and invite her/him to come back to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

If you are a critical worker and you want your child in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12 to return to school on Tuesday 5th January, you will need to book them in using the electronic form on the Trust website, which can be accessed here - [Request for Critical Worker School Placement](#). The form includes a link to government information about which occupations are classed as 'critical'.

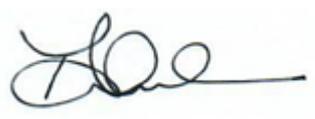
All students who do not return to school in the first week of term should continue their learning on-line. The on-line learning programmes will be available on the SBL Student Site: <https://students.sbllearning.org.uk/>

Children in receipt of free school meals, who are not in school until 11th January, will have their meal provided through the voucher scheme.

We do not have any details about the testing arrangements. We are expecting further guidance next week and will communicate our plans at the start of the new term, if this goes ahead.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr D Anderson
Principal



Andrea Arlidge
Chief Executive