4 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well and have had a restful Christmas break.

In line with the Government’s announcements over last few days, we have had to make a number of changes to our arrangements for the start of term. The main changes from the plans announced before Christmas are that:

* **Year 11 and Year 13 students will return to school for face to face teaching on Monday 11th January**
* **All other Year groups will return to school for face to face teaching on Monday 18th January**
* Reminder: Vocational Examinations will go ahead as planned

**Remote learning:**

From Tuesday 5th January all year groups will be set work remotely via Google Classroom. All students should follow their timetable to ensure that they complete work for each subject – the term starts with week one of the timetable. Staff will be available on the chat function of Google Classroom to answer any questions from your child in this allocated time period. If your child’s teacher is supporting the key worker provision in school they may not be able to respond immediately, please bear with us on this as we work through these challenging circumstances.

Students in Years 11 and 13 will be invited to some ‘live lessons’ via Google Meets. Information about remote learning can be found by following this link: <https://www.st-wilfrids.org/curriculum/online-learning/>

Please contact school via helpdesk@st-wilfrids.org with any queries regarding access to remote learning.

Parents of FSM students can expect their provision to continue through a voucher system.

**Vulnerable children and children of critical workers:**

The Government have said that vulnerable students and children of critical workers in all year groups can still attend school in the first week. We have already contacted families of students we feel should be in school and look forward to welcoming these children into school.

**Vocational examinations:**

Vocational exams scheduled throughout January will go ahead as planned.There will be some revision sessions organised in school for those students taking an exam and we will let those students know arrangements via Google Classroom.

**Preliminary examinations for Year 11 and Year 13 students:**

The Year 11 and Year 13 exam week will go ahead beginning on Monday 18th January and students should continue to prepare for these.

**Mass testing for asymptomatic infection:**

A further letter will be shared later today with information about mass testing in school.

I would like to apologise for the very short notice of these changes to the start of term, but I am sure that you appreciate that we are reacting to a rapidly changing situation. If you have any questions, please contact school in the usual way via your child’s Head of House.

I will keep you informed if further changes are required in line with Government guidance and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

D Ritchie

Mrs D Ritchie

Acting Head of School