



Ark Charter Academy

Thursday 31st December

Dear Parents and Carers,

We do hope you and your family have enjoyed the break over Christmas despite the restrictions. Following the Government announcement on schools yesterday afternoon, we are writing to confirm arrangements for the first two weeks of the Spring Term. Further details will be confirmed as soon as we have them.

As you are probably aware, the rising rates of coronavirus infection have led the Government to delay the return to face-to-face teaching in secondary schools. A staggered return is therefore required, with priority given to the year-groups facing public examinations in the summer (Year 11) alongside vulnerable students and the children of key workers. Key arrangements for the next two weeks are as follows:

- **Years 7-10** will have remote teaching online from the start of term on Wednesday 6 January. Students will follow their usual timetable of lessons via Microsoft Teams. They will be able to return to school for face-to-face teaching on Monday 18 January.
- **Year 11** will also have remote lessons for the first week of term, starting on Wednesday 6 January. However, students in this year-group will be able to return to the school on Monday 11 January.

We will continue to provide face to face education on site from Wednesday 6 January for vulnerable students and the children of key workers. We will contact these families early next week to notify them of arrangements. If you are a key worker and would like your child to attend the on-site provision from Wednesday 6th January, please contact Mrs. F Chapman on f.chapman@charteracademy.org.uk

Over the holidays we have been working on plans to begin offering coronavirus testing for students and staff in school, and we will keep you updated on these arrangements as further information becomes available. This testing programme will help us to identify asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases and thus to reduce possible transmission in school, which will be beneficial.

The rising rate of infection is naturally of concern to us, and we will be keeping the safety of our community at the heart of all our planning.

With every good wish to you all for 2021.

Warm regards,

Fiona Chapman
Executive Principal

Emily Morey
Principal



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