



MALVERN COLLEGE

31 December 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

Late yesterday afternoon Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education, announced that there would be a change to the staggered return for students in January in UK secondary schools. This is to allow schools to have time to prepare for mass testing of staff and pupils.

Therefore, we have needed to make the following changes to the start of term information that was communicated on 22nd December:

- From Tuesday 5th January, lessons for **all** year groups will now be online (commencing Period 2).
- From Monday 11th January, Hundred, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth will have face-to-face lessons.
- From Monday 18th January, all year groups will be back in the classroom.

Overseas boarders

Return to College as planned and the quarantine and test to release scheme will take place. All overseas boarders, regardless of their country of origin, will now need to quarantine until they have a negative Covid-test result. This will be organised by the College as part of the mass testing at the start of term. Overseas boarders also have the option of quarantining elsewhere but must send a negative Covid-test result to the Housem before returning to College. Lesson attendance will be online from boarding houses, commencing Period 2 Tuesday 5th January (9.45am UK time).

If returning at a later date is preferable, Hundred, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth overseas boarders should return by Sunday 10th January; other year groups by Sunday 17th January. Please keep Housems updated regarding travel plans.

UK boarders

May return from 4th January, however, they will need to quarantine in boarding houses in their normal rooms until they have had negative Covid-test results. This will be organised by the College as part of the mass testing programme. Due to the staggered face-to-face start of lessons, they will attend online lessons and some CCAs from their rooms, so may prefer to return on the following dates:

- Hundred, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth return on Sunday 10th January.
- FY, Remove and Lower Sixth return on Sunday 17th January.
- Lesson attendance will be online, commencing Period 2 Tuesday 5th January (9.45am).

Day pupils

- Hundred, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth return to school on Monday 11th January.
- FY, Remove and Lower Sixth return to school on Monday 18th January.

Until these dates, lesson attendance will be online, commencing Period 2 Tuesday 5th January (9.45am).

Lateral flow tests will be arranged for day pupils prior to their return to school for classroom lessons. Further information will be sent to day pupil parents in the next week.

Mass Coronavirus Testing

The UK Government is providing Lateral Flow Device testing for all pupils and staff. The testing kits will be sent out to schools next week. All UK boarders will quarantine in boarding houses until they have had two negative lateral flow testing results, which will be approximately five days after their arrival. Overseas boarders will quarantine until their approved PCR test is returned as negative. Day pupils will be sent details in the next week explaining how they will complete lateral flow tests prior to their return to school. The same strict Covid-protocols will remain in place as were applied last term.

Vulnerable Children and Children of Critical Workers

Children of critical workers or vulnerable children may be in school from Tuesday 5th January but will attend lessons online from boarding houses. Please notify Julie Descher, Headmaster's PA, if your child is vulnerable or if you are a critical worker, as defined here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Academic curriculum

We were pleased with the success of online learning during the Summer Term and further information will be sent to pupils reminding them of how to access online learning and the relevant protocols.

A small number of pupils in the Hundred and Pre-Sixth were due to take an IGCSE Mathematics examination on 7th January. We are waiting for further guidance from the examination board and will let parents know the position as soon as possible.

Co-curriculum and super-curriculum

During the first two weeks of term, we will be running a variety of online Co-curricular and Super-curricular activities, in line with guidance from the government and relevant national governing bodies, as we did successfully during the 2020 Summer Term. In addition, those pupils who are boarding during the first two weeks of term will have opportunities to exercise and use some facilities. Due to the new guidance from the UK Government, netball pre-season training will no longer be held on campus as previously planned. Rebecca Gwilliam will contact those who were planning to attend with details for a virtual fitness/netball session.

I will, of course, be in touch again if there are any further changes over the coming days. Many thanks to you all for your patience and support.

My very best wishes for a safe and happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Keith Metcalfe', with a horizontal line underneath.

Keith Metcalfe
Headmaster