

Friday, 18th December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – Start of term in January

I am sure that you have seen the news that the Department for Education (DfE) has decided to limit the number of students in secondary schools during the first week of term in January. They have taken this decision to try to break the chain of infections, nationwide, before all students return to secondary schools.

For your information, this is the guidance from the DfE:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>

During the first week of school (beginning Monday 4th January) only students in Years 11 and 13 will be in school; they will be following their normal timetable. Additionally, children of qualifying critical workers, who will struggle to access remote learning unsupervised from home, can come into school to be supervised so they can complete the same remote learning as other students.

We are also offering onsite provision to a limited number of students who have been contacted by telephone today. These students will also be supervised so they can complete the same remote learning as other students.

Students in Years 7 to 10 and 12, working from home, should follow their timetable and access their work through the **remotelearning.paulet.co.uk** drive. As a research informed school, we draw on the evidence from the Education Endowment Foundation which states that the quality of provision is more significant than the way in which it is delivered. Therefore, there will be a combination of tasks delivered mainly through our remote learning drive and by email. Students will be contacted by email at the start and end of each lesson and be expected to complete and email work to their teachers. Where possible, teachers will use ZOOM, or equivalent, to make contact with teaching groups during the lesson.

If you think your child qualifies for critical worker provision, please email me directly telling me your occupation and employer details **before 3pm on Tuesday 22nd December**; my email address in i.mcarthur@paulet.co.uk

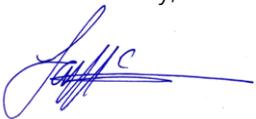
If you are unsure about what occupations qualify as critical workers, please follow this link:

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

Students in receipt of free school meals will be contacted separately and nearer the start of term; if your child needs an exercise book to work in please send them to school on Monday morning (4th January) to collect one from the table outside the front door.

Right... have a quiet, safe, restful and calm Christmas; what is it folk say? 'The sun always shines after the storm' – roll on the sun!

Yours faithfully,



Ian McArthur - Headteacher