



The Crossley Heath School

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31st December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Late yesterday afternoon, the Secretary of State, Gavin Williamson, announced changes to the staggered start to the Spring Term. We have received details of the changes from DfE this morning. As you know, I wrote to you earlier yesterday confirming the arrangements as they were at the time of writing, having delayed as long as possible in anticipation of such an announcement. I am sure many of you will share my frustration that these changes have been announced so late and I recognise that this is disconcerting for both students and parents.

In essence, the government now requires secondary schools to push back arrangements for the start of term by one week.

In the week commencing 4 January 2021, school will be closed to students except those who are:

- children identified as SEND or vulnerable - for supervised remote learning in our 'mini-school'
- children of critical (key) workers - for supervised remote learning in our 'mini-school'

All other students, including Y11 and Y13, should study remotely at home during this week.

In the week commencing 11 January 2021, school will be closed to students except those who are:

- in Y11 - for mock examinations as previously communicated (albeit a week later)
- in Y13 - for normal lessons
- children identified as SEND or vulnerable - for supervised remote learning in our 'mini-school'
- children of critical (key) workers - for supervised remote learning in our 'mini-school'

All other students should study remotely at home during this week.

In the week commencing 18 January 2021, school is open for all students to attend as normal.

Parents of students in Year 11

For next week (w/c 4 January), your son/daughter should engage with remote learning at home via Microsoft Teams. Whenever possible, students should be online following their usual lesson timetable from 8.30 on Monday morning. Work for Y11 will be tailored by teachers to support consolidation of prior learning and preparation for mock exams. This may be independent revision or online revision lessons. We have written to you previously to explain arrangements, access to and expectations for remote learning in these circumstances. We will send you a copy of this information separately. Students will also receive remote learning guidance and a remote learning log.

An "Outstanding" School – Ofsted

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We appreciate that the delayed start to the term will cause uncertainty and anxiety for some Y11 students. Please be assured that the formal mock examinations will take place in the week commencing 11 January when students will follow their mock exam timetable.

Your child should attend school from Monday 11 January, arriving for their first mock exam in the afternoon.

Y11 will be treated as a bubble. All the current rules about the wearing of face coverings, social distancing will remain place in order to reduce transmission of the virus.

Children with SEND, children who are vulnerable and those whose parents are critical workers are invited to attend our mini school next week. Children attending our mini-school will learn remotely, following their usual timetable, in the same way as their peers who are at home. The mini-school will be organised as a single bubble for students across all year groups for the duration of the week.

Parents of Y11 students who are critical workers and who require their child to attend our mini-school next week (4 Jan) should use this link to register by **12.00 noon on Saturday 2 January**.

<http://tiny.cc/2ef7tz>

Parents of children in Y11 identified as SEND or vulnerable will be contacted directly by our pastoral team via email with information about how to register your child if you wish him/her to attend our mini school. **Please register by 12.00 noon on Saturday 2 January.**

Following registration for the mini school, Mrs Heaton will make contact with parents to confirm arrangements.

If you are unable to register using the link for any reason, please just send us an email at admin@crossleyheath.org.uk.

Parents of students in Y13

For next week (w/c 4 January), your son/daughter should engage with remote learning at home via Microsoft Teams. Whenever possible, students should be online following their usual lesson timetable from 8.30 on Monday morning. We have written to you previously to explain arrangements, access to and expectations for remote learning in these circumstances. We will send you a copy of this information separately. Students will also receive remote learning guidance.

Your child should attend as normal from Monday 11 January. Y13 will be treated as a bubble. All the current rules about the wearing of face coverings, social distancing and not leaving and returning to the site during the day, will remain place in order to reduce transmission of the virus.

Y13 mock examinations will take place as planned, albeit a week later than scheduled. This means the first exam will take place on the morning of Friday 22 January.

Parents of children in Y13 identified as SEND or vulnerable will be contacted directly by our pastoral team via email with information about how to register your child if you wish him/her to attend our mini school. Please register by 12.00 noon on Saturday 2 January.

If you are unable to register using the link for any reason, please just send us an email at admin@crossleyheath.org.uk.

Parents of children in Y7-10 and Y12

In the week commencing Monday 4th January **and the week commencing 11 January**, your child should engage with remote learning at home via Microsoft Teams. Whenever possible, students should be online following their usual timetable from 8.30 on Monday morning. We have written to you previously to explain arrangements, access to and expectations for remote learning in these circumstances. We will send you a copy of this information separately. Students will also receive remote learning guidance and a remote learning log in due course.

Your child should return to school on Monday 18 January 2020.

Reminder: children in Y7-10 and Y12 identified as SEND or vulnerable, and children of parents who are critical workers

Parents of children identified as SEND or vulnerable will have been contacted directly by our pastoral team via email with information about how to register for our mini school next week. Parents who wish their child to attend the mini school should have registered by 12.00 noon today using the link in the letter sent yesterday.

Mrs Heaton will contact all parents who have registered their child to confirm arrangements.

If you have not received an email from Mr Chesters, believe your child to be SEND or vulnerable and you would like them to join the mini-school on Monday please contact Mr Chesters as soon as possible l.chesters@crossleyheath.org.uk

If you have tried to register but have been unable to do so, please email admin@crossleyheath.org.uk.

Other information

Buses

We have updated the bus companies about the changed arrangements. If you have any queries about the bus services, please contact your bus company directly.

Mass testing

The position remains essentially the same as described in my letter of yesterday. We will be working on this from Monday and more information will be provided to you as soon as possible.

Positive Covid-19 tests

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 during the next two weeks, please let us know by e-mailing Admin@crossleyheath.org.uk.

Thank you for your patience and forbearance during this latest period of uncertainty. Your support for the school in dealing with the challenges presented by the rapidly unfolding pandemic is very much appreciated. We recognise the difficulties and concerns caused by prolonged periods of remote learning for our children and very much applaud you for juggling your own arrangements and supporting your child through these trying times. We are absolutely committed to keeping your child safe, caring for their well-being and ensuring continuity of their education, working in partnership with you, their family.

May I wish you and your family a Happy New Year

Yours sincerely



Mrs Lynnette Cassidy
Headteacher