



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Dayspring Trust



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DAI

9 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to our update yesterday, we are able to confirm that we have been told by our insurers and contractors that **we can fully open school from Monday 13 December**. This is a great relief to us all. School will open to all pupils at the usual time. Although the roof has been made safe, it is estimated that the project for the full repair will last between 4 and 6 months. This means that there are a number of additional compromises to our day-to-day working that we need to implement. Luckily, from the pupil's perspective, there are very few which will have much impact on them.

The main restriction is that the rear of the school has now become a building site and is fenced off with no access to pupils or staff. This segregation is needed to ensure that pupils do not come into contact with any plant machinery or building processes, so that they remain safe. To accommodate this, we have re-mapped where our pupils will meet each morning, where breaks and lunches will be spent and how they will exit the building at the end of the day.

Where will pupils meet each morning

As we are unable to use the rear of the school, we have had to relocate where Year 9 and Year 10 line up at the beginning of the day. Year 10 will now meet in the section of the yard directly opposite the entrance to the MFL block. So, when they come into school, they will need to walk up the left-hand side stairs to the top yard.

Year 9 will meet on the tennis courts opposite the Technology block. This means that they will need to walk up the stairs at the right-hand side. Year 7, Year 8 and Y11 line up in their usual locations. Naturally, we will have staff outside to signpost pupils to where they need to line up. We will share all other internal system changes with pupils once they are in school on Monday.

Breakfast club will open at the usual time from Monday 13 December. Any pupil who normally accesses breakfast club will do so by entering the building from the main entrance each morning.



Y11 Mock Exams

We have been able to reschedule some of the mock exams, which were originally scheduled for week beginning 29th November, to take place upon the return of pupils. The English Language mock exam will now take place on the morning of Monday 13th December; the Maths mock exam [Paper 2] on the afternoon of Monday 13th December and, for those who study History, the History mock exam [Paper 3] on the morning of Tuesday 14th December.


We will be in touch shortly with information about the Spanish and Business Enterprise Exams that were also originally scheduled for week beginning 29th November.

Wearing of facemasks

We are sure that you will have seen in the news that it is once again mandatory for pupils to wear masks in corridors and high-density areas around school. We would like to ask that you ensure your child attends school on Monday with a mask to wear. At this point, we are not insisting that pupils wear masks in classrooms (they can if they choose to do so). As we have done throughout this pandemic, we will review and update our risk assessment in line with guidance from the government, and what is happening in our local context.

Finally, we can confirm that pupils **will break up for the Christmas holiday at 3.00 p.m. Friday 17 December.**

Regards



Mr. D. Airey
Headteacher

