

18th December 2020



Dear Parents

Logistical Planning Day – Monday, 4th January 2021

You will be aware that scientists are very concerned about the easing of restrictions over the Christmas period and the impact that this is likely to have on the spread of Covid-19. There is resulting concern about the return of young people to schools in January and this led to a late announcement by the government yesterday afternoon regarding the start of the new term.

Schools will stagger the return of students to assist with the containment of the virus and institutions are also asked to prepare for mass testing. You will appreciate that this is a very significant piece of work so we are adding a **Logistical Planning Day to our calendar on 4th January 2021 for all secondaries and the college in MLP**. Students will therefore not attend school on that day. We will use the day to prepare student learning schedules, both live and remote, and to plan for the training of staff for the testing programme as well as other logistical developments.

I am sorry for the short notice of this additional day's holiday for students but you will understand that we only heard news of the government plan less than 24 hours ago!

On Tuesday, 5th January 2021 students in Years 11, 12 and 13 should attend. All other year groups will be provided with remote learning. In addition, the children of critical workers and those with a social worker or other specialist support should also attend from 5th January. If you would like your child to attend this provision please call the school office on Monday, 4th January or email enquires@sarumacademy.org

All other year groups – 7, 8, 9 and 10 should return to school on Monday, 11th January 2021. In line with Department for Education guidance, students will be expected to complete at least 4 hours per day of remote learning.

For students who are remote learning, work will be set for your child on a daily basis via Class Charts. Your child will follow their school timetable and complete the work set by their subject teacher. This will involve 'Loom videos' that will provide support from their class teacher followed by tasks for your child to complete. There may be some lessons that are taught 'live.' The link for these lessons will be published on Class Charts by the teacher with details of the time and date of the lesson.

If we need to, we will be in contact with you again to give you more information about the return of your sons and daughters to school in January. We will also be seeking parental consent for mass testing and will do that at the start of the new term.

I am sorry that this information has come so late to you and that we are, as yet, unable to provide much detail, but we will do so as soon as we possibly can. We want to see all our young people back in live learning as soon as possible. In the meantime, please have a safe, healthy and happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Moore
Headteacher

Sarum Academy Westwood Road Salisbury Wiltshire SP2 9HS

Tel: 01722 323431 **Email:** enquiries@sarumacademy.org **Website:** www.sarumacademy.org