

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Updated Headlines as of Thursday 31st December 2020:

- **From Monday 4th January to Friday 8th January 2021 – Week 1:**
 - All vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers in all year groups to return to school on Monday 4th January 2021 for face to face teaching.
 - All other pupils in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 to attend live lessons and their year group assembly remotely on MS Teams from Monday 4th January to Friday 8th January 2021.
- **From Monday 11th January to Friday 15th January 2021 – Week 2:**
 - All pupils in Year 11 to return to school on Monday 11th January 2021 for face to face teaching. All children of critical workers in all year groups and all vulnerable pupils to also continue coming to school for face to face teaching. All other pupils to attend lessons remotely until Friday 15th January 2021.
- **From Monday 18th January 2021 onwards – Week 3:**
 - All pupils in Years 7-10 to return to school on Monday 18th January 2021 with all Year 11 pupils.
- **Testing Programme for COVID 19 open to all students and staff to begin week commencing Monday 11th January 2021. More information on this to come next week.**

I hope you and your family are well and enjoyed the Christmas break together. As you will be aware from the media coverage this week and throughout the holidays, the intended staggered start has changed again due to the rise in COVID-19 cases nationally over the holidays. It is hoped that this updated approach will break any potential chain in transmission and keep schools as safe as possible.

Therefore, to avoid any confusion for our Saint George family of students, parents and staff the updated headlines outline the plan for the staggered return to school. The only change to what you were aware of before is that all of Year 11 will not be joining us at school until a week later, Monday 11th January, and all pupils two weeks later, Monday 18th January. A gentle reminder that our expectations regarding face coverings and socially distancing remain and therefore please can you make sure that your son/daughter when they return to school has two face coverings. I am also pleased to note that Southampton is currently not a high contingency area and therefore we are hopeful this remains. Please see below information on specific areas and answers to questions you may have:

If I am due back at Saint George (Children of Key workers & Vulnerable Pupils) Monday 4th January 2021 where do I go and will I go to lessons?

Yes, all pupils that should return to school on Monday 4th January 2021 should be in normal school uniform and follow their timetables for face to face teaching. When you arrive, if it is before 8:20am, go to the main hall. After 8:20am you should go to the following rooms below for tutor time on Monday and then Tuesday onwards go to your normal tutor room:

Year 7 – Room 1 – Miss Provenzano

Year 8 – Room 3 – Miss Self

Year 9 – Room 10 – Miss Foord

Year 10 – Room 11 – Mr Copplestone

Year 11 – G11 (New Science Block – Top Floor) Mr Shelley

Please note all Year 11 students returning on Monday 11th January and all students coming back on Monday 18th January should go to their tutor rooms as normal from 8:20am.

Lateral Flow Testing Programme for COVID 19 – To start soon...

As you will be aware, part of the reason for the staggered start is to give schools time next week to set up their testing programme open to all pupils and staff. I will be writing to all parents and pupils next week with information about the test, the consent form and the specific details when each year group should come into school week commencing Monday 11th January to be tested should they decide to take up this option. *The guidance states that “where practical, children who are receiving remote education during the week of Monday 11th January should arrive at school at a scheduled time for testing”.* Our intention is that we will test all pupils who agree to be tested week commencing Monday 11th January 2021 and again week commencing Monday 18th January 2021. After that, we will only test pupils again if they have been a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Staff will continue to be tested weekly. I will write to you next week with the scheduled times we would like each year group to arrive for testing. At this point I want to thank our staff nurse, Mrs Terri Chappell, Mrs Sarah Drummond and the team of volunteers who have already come forward to run this programme for us working over the holiday to ensure this is set up.

Remote Education

All pupils who should attend live lessons via MS Teams following their normal school timetable. Lessons will be delivered live through your son/daughter’s MS Teams account. If there are any issues with connecting to your lessons, please email your progress leader. Assemblies, but not tutor time, will take place on MS Teams as normal. Contact details for progress leaders are below:

- Year 7 gprovenzano@stgcc.co.uk
- Year 8 cself@stgcc.co.uk
- Year 9 afoord@stgcc.co.uk
- Year 10 ocopplestone@stgcc.co.uk
- Year 11 cshelley@stgcc.co.uk

Transport – Is School Transport still working week 1 and week 2

All school transport is definitely working as normal from Monday 4th January 2021 to ensure that our vulnerable pupils and children of key workers can attend initially and then as we progress through the weeks all our other students who use the school bus service.

Year 11 Mock Results Day and P6 Intervention:

For your information, due to the delayed start of Year 11 till Monday 11th January 2021, **mock results day is now on Friday 15th January 2021** and will take place registration and period 1. Mr Shelley will talk to all Year 11 pupils about this next week in his online assembly. **Year 11 intervention from 3-4pm Monday to Friday that then normally follows mock results day will therefore start the following week beginning Monday 18th January 2021.** Mr Shelley will be writing to all parents and pupils in the next two weeks with students personalized intervention programmes for afterschool.

Year 11 Parents Evening has changed to Thursday 4th February 2021

Please note that Year 11 parents’ evening has been changed from Thursday 14th January 2021 to Thursday 4th February 2021 due to the delayed start to term. Please can you note that change in your diaries. Mr Shelley will again be in contact closer to the time with the details to make appointments online.

What is a critical worker and what is the definition of a vulnerable pupil?

Critical workers are those who work in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes childcare, support and teaching staff, social workers, specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach.

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security

This includes police, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure, the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services).

Definition of a Vulnerable Pupil:

- *Vulnerable children are children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child.*
- *have an education, health and care (EHC) plan*
- *have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:*
 - *children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services*
 - *adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')*
 - *those living in temporary accommodation, those who are young carers*

- *others at the provider and local authority's discretion*

If you have any questions please get in touch.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy New Year. Stay safe and take care.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Habberley'.

James Habberley
Headteacher