



TRINITY

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

BELVEDERE

PRINCIPAL:
VICE PRINCIPAL:

MR S GODDEN
MR D PALMER

18th December 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

It is with great regret that I find myself having to write to you once more, however as you are most likely aware there have been a number of announcements and developments from the Government & DfE.

These announcements relate to two main areas:

- The start of term 2021
- Mass testing in schools

Start of Term

Pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 will receive remote education on 6th, 7th & 8th January. This is a Government directive, and is intended to support schools with the preparation for mass COVID testing.

Whilst working remotely, pupils should continue to follow their normal timetable. Teachers will continue to set work and offer support online. Your child should check Class Charts & Google Classroom each day for their work. If you have any difficulties accessing suitable IT / internet services, please contact the school and we will aim to support.

Whilst many pupils, regrettably, have had to self-isolate this term we continue to be encouraged by their resilience and ability to adapt to remote learning. We know that this will continue in the New Year, and thank you for your support.

Pupils should return to school at their normal staggered start time on Monday 11th January 2021.

If your child is a recipient of Free School Meals, please take note of a separate email that has been sent to you.

We will also continue to provide on-site education for the children of critical workers, if required, between 6th – 8th January. Pupils will be supervised by staff accessing the same remote learning resources and tasks provided for pupils at home. We are unable to run separate lessons, as staff will be engaged in face-to-face teaching of examination groups, or providing remote support online.

If you are a critical worker and require your child to attend on-site, please complete the following form **by 4th January 2021**. We will be unable to accept requests after this date, as staffing will have already been planned.

<https://forms.gle/w8RGtmwaPbxJ1wYK8>

You **do not** need to complete the form if you **do not** need your child to attend school.

Mass Testing

Let me begin by stating that, as a school, we do not disagree with the principle of mass testing – this will enable more pupils to remain in school and receive a high-quality, face-to-face education. However, at this moment in time we have **very limited** information about this programme. The following link provides some information re: lateral flow testing: <https://twitter.com/10DowningStreet/status/1328387524490911745?s=20>



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This is a huge logistical operation, and will take careful planning and consideration. It is simply not possible to achieve this on the last day of term, nor will it be possible to do so with one INSET day at the start of next term.

What we do know, is that parents/carers **will** be required to provide consent for their child to be tested. In order to support the school with planning and to enable us to be as prepared as possible for the start of this testing programme, I would ask that you use the following link to either provide or withhold consent. **Please note, your child will need to log into their school account to access the form.**

<https://forms.gle/c9xHRHp54BiPsoxn9>

Please be aware that no pupils will be tested before further information is shared with you. Once we have a strategically planned system, full details will be shared and testing will then commence. I cannot commit to an exact date for this at present.

It is my intention that **no** further communication will be provided **before 5th January**. I would ask that you remain vigilant to the rapidly changing national picture, however, and should I need to send further information I will do so via email and on the school website.

Once more, I wish you a blessed and peaceful holiday.

Yours sincerely

Mr Simon Godden
Principal