

21 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It was certainly not my intention to be speaking to you so soon after we broke up! However, following the most recent announcement from the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, all secondary schools in England have been instructed to implement a **staggered return to on-site learning** at the beginning of next term and to make the necessary preparations to deliver a Covid-19 testing program for staff and students. In line with this, please see the details below for our plans as they currently stand:

- Monday, 4 January 2021, will now be taken as an additional logistical planning day to prepare to deliver these tests. There **will not** be any on-site or remote learning provision that day.
- **Years 11 and 13** as well as vulnerable children and children of key workers will return to on-site provision on January 5 and will be prioritised for testing as soon as the programme is established. **Please note if both parents/carers are key workers and have no alternative childcare arrangements in place, you must register the need for your child to be in school by emailing the contact us alias: office@kirkhallamacademy.co.uk with all details by 9am, 4 January 2021.**
- **Remote education** will be provided for all other year groups (**Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12**) during the first week of term, **before a full return to school or college from 11 January 2021**. Similar to the autumn term, our remote provision will be delivered via MS Teams. We strongly recommend students adhere to the timings of their normal school timetable, including breaks and lunchtimes.

With regard to the testing arrangements, we will provide you with the details once we have received specific guidance from the government and prepared our on-site test provision. At present we have not received any of these details and are unable to answer questions until we know more.

Thank you and best wishes for a safe and restful Christmas.

Yours sincerely



Damian Belshaw
Head of School