

Dear Varndean families

Coronavirus update 31st December

Following the DfE announcement yesterday about delays to the return to school in January I am writing to update you on Varndean's plans for next week.

Year 11 students:

Year 11 will now complete their school work at home as per the timetable [here](#). The timetable has been prepared to further support preparation for the PPE examinations, which we are expecting to run the week beginning 11th January. The assembly on Monday morning at 10am will focus on revision skills and how to best use the time working remotely from home. Year 11 students are expected to return to school full time on the 11th January.

Students in years 7 - 10:

Students in these year groups will now complete their school work from home for the weeks beginning the 4th and 11th of January before turning to school on the 18th January. We will still run the two webinar assemblies (either 9.30 - 9.45 or 9.45 - 10am as listed on their timetable) on Monday morning to explain expectations to the students.

The detailed off site learning plan for the week is [here](#) and webinar links have been added.

Children of key workers and vulnerable children

As we did during lockdown 1 we will continue to support these two groups of children in school where parents need us to do so or the child's needs require it. The full list of families who are eligible to access this provision can be seen here. [Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings](#). As before, students will be supported in school to complete the work they would otherwise be doing at home and if children are able to work at home they are encouraged to do so.

As previously stated this provision will begin fully on Tuesday 5th January. Our starting point will be the students that we supported previously in addition to those eligible from our new year 7 cohort. We will write to you on the 4th to confirm the need and outline the arrangements.

If this schedule creates problems for you and your family then please contact Vicky Anstiss (vickyanstiss@varndean.co.uk) today explaining the situation you face on the 4th and we will endeavour to find a solution.

Free school meals

Families of students eligible for free school meals will receive support for the week 4-15th January. We will write on the 4th with more details of how we approach this when guidance from the DfE is published.

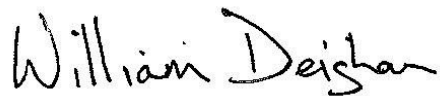
Mass testing in schools

We are still working through the guidance from the DfE about mass testing in schools and will share more details with you next week about how this will operate at Varndean.

Access to an ICT device

If your child will have difficulties completing off site learning due to a lack of access to a device. Please contact your child's school base on the 4th January and we will see if we can help.

Warm regards



William Deighan
Headteacher