



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday afternoon we had notification from the Department for Education that only Year 11 and 13 students along with vulnerable students and children of key workers would be in school for the first week after Christmas. This means that **Year 11 and 13 students** will return to school as normal on **Monday the 4th January** along with vulnerable and key worker children.

The last minute nature of this communication has represented a number of challenges for staff and for whole school organisation, but we now have a plan in place.

Based on our first lockdown list of vulnerable and key worker children, Mrs Payne will today be writing to families to ascertain who will be coming into school in addition to Years 11 and 13.

However, we are very aware that there may be other children who need to be in school who are not on our existing lists. If you do not receive an email from Mrs Payne spayne@phsg.org today, and you feel your child **fits into the vulnerable or key worker category** and you would like them **to be in school**, please email her, spayne@phsg.org **before 5pm on Monday the 21st December to request a place**. If we do not receive your email by 5pm on Monday the 21st December, we will not be able to allocate a vulnerable/key worker place for Monday the 4th January.

Mrs Payne will be in touch with any late vulnerable/key worker requests for places on Monday the 4th January to allocate places for Tuesday the 5th January.

We have set aside dedicated spaces for the vulnerable and key worker children and will treat each room as a single bubble. Although this means that year groups will be mixing, the bubble will be maintained for the week and students will not be mixing with anyone else in school. Since there will be at least a 48 hour gap between the end of the first week and the start of the second week, the vulnerable and key worker children will be able to return to their year group bubbles on Monday 11th of January.

Please remember that if any child is showing COVID-19 symptoms they should isolate at home and a test should be arranged for them.

Lessons will continue remotely from Monday 4th January for those students who are learning from home. Teachers will be taking registers of those students attending online lessons and parents will be informed of any absences. Heads of Year will be making it clear to students what is expected of them whilst learning from home. Teachers are working hard to try and make the home learning experience as effective as possible. All lessons will be run through Google Classroom. Students need to ensure that they are appropriately dressed and in an appropriate space for lessons.

We are very hopeful that all students will be back in school on Monday the 11th January and we thank you for your support and understanding as we try and react to this last minute directive from the Government.

Wishing you a happy Christmas break.

Regards,



Mr Underdown.
Headteacher.