

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2020

GILES ACADEMY

DFE / GOVERNMENT UPDATE FOR PARENTS

Dear parents / carers,

I wanted to write to you today, following the latest Government update on Thursday 17 December.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/staggered-rollout-of-coronavirus-testing-for-secondary-schools-and-colleges>

I apologise for the timing of this letter, being on a Friday evening. However, the SLATrust leadership team have today started to plan the way forward for the COVID mass testing programme in school and we see it as being extremely important to get information shared in a prompt manner.

We will continue to plan over the Christmas break to ensure that our robust systems for students to return in January are effective, in order for us to keep as many students and staff safe and continuing to work, whether in school or remotely. Therefore, in response to the Government new advice, please see the following details that outline the school's position our return to school, to meet the requirements of the new guidance as well as meeting the needs of any upcoming examinations that will take place in the first week of term:

MONDAY 04 JANUARY	<u>STAFF TRAINING INSET DAY</u> Training day for staff on the new mass testing COVID agenda; No student should attend school and no work will be set for students on this staff training day.
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Year 11	
TUESDAY 05 JANUARY	<p>Lessons / Mocks / Crammers for Year 11 as normal in school</p>
WEDNESDAY 06 JANUARY	
THURSDAY 07 JANUARY	
FRIDAY 08 JANUARY	

Please note for all other Year Groups:

Year 7 / YEAR 8 / YEAR 9 / YEAR 10	
TUESDAY 05 JANUARY	All students are required to work from home remotely
WEDNESDAY 06 JANUARY	
THURSDAY 07 JANUARY	
FRIDAY 08 JANUARY	

Home Working:

All students who will be working remotely from home will experience a mixture of blended learning, with all lessons set using a mixture of: Show My Homework; annotated and narrated power point presentations; interactive resources; pre-prepared films and via TEAMS. Our approach has been developed with a focus on 'long term learning investment' and by using a variety of approaches we can continue to engage our learners.

Children of Critical Workers:

Please note that regardless of the Year Group, all vulnerable children and children of critical workers are also permitted to attend school in this first week, with these students participating in the same online lessons as the rest of their year group, which will be in a supervised area and working at a computer. If your child falls into either the critical worker or vulnerable group and you wish to send him/her to work at school rather than to work remotely from home, please could you advise us of this by emailing:

- StudentAbsence@gilesacademy.co.uk

Free School Meals:

Please be reassured that if you are in receipt of FSM vouchers, these have already been arranged and will be issued to all families as necessary for this week on Monday 04 January 2021.

Finally, can we take the time to remind all families that Old Leake / Boston / Skegness and the surrounding area is still operating within Tier 3 restrictions, details can be found via the following link:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-3-very-high-alert>

We hope you find this information useful at the start of the Christmas break.

Kindest regards,



Executive Headteacher SLATrust