

31 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I write to you again following the update from the Education Secretary on the 30th December regarding the staggered return to on-site learning; the Government has changed their plans once again. The rise in COVID cases and our subsequent move to Tier 4, combined with the extensive work required to establish appropriate testing facilities in schools has led to a delay in the staggered start previously shared with you. Please see our revised plans below:

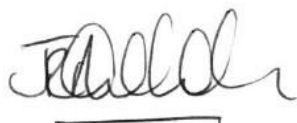
- Monday, 4 January 2021, **remains** an INSET day. There **will not** be any on-site or remote learning provision that day.
- Exam year groups (Year 11 & 13) **will now not return** to on-site learning on 5 January as previously stated, but will follow their normal timetables remotely from 5 January until their return to site on 11 January 2021. This remote provision will be delivered via MS Teams and we will aim to live stream as many lessons as possible during this time.
- Vocational examinations scheduled during the first fortnight of the new term **will go ahead**. We are planning a series of short masterclasses for students who will undertake these examinations. Mr Dawson will send details of these sessions, along with the exam timetable, to all students involved in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 to student school emails on Monday.
- We thank you in advance for supporting students to attend these sessions in preparation for these vital external examinations. Teaching rooms and examination venues will meet Covid secure expectations and our usual Covid protocols will be followed. Students must arrive 5 minutes before masterclasses and exams and depart site immediately afterwards.
- Vulnerable children will return to on- site provision on 5 January. Contact will be made with vulnerable children directly on 4 January by our pastoral team.
- Children of key workers will return to on-site provision on 5 January. **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** clicking on the banner on the school homepage www.garibaldischool.co.uk
- Remote education, delivered via MS Teams and the 'subjects' area of the school website, will be provided for all other year groups (Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12) during the first **two** weeks of term, before an anticipated full return to school from **18 January 2021, one week later than previously stated**.

Thank you if you have already given consent for your children to participate in serial testing. Your promptness with this greatly helps our administration and preparation.

As always, we must respond to changes in Government guidance. I will continue to keep you updated as our plans and guidance develop further or have to change.

Best wishes for a safe and more certain 2021.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Aldred', written over a horizontal line.

Mr J Aldred
Head of School