

18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the government's recent announcement, which you can view in the link below, we are writing to let you know about the arrangements for coming back to school in January 2021. Unfortunately, due to a national rise in Coronavirus cases, the government has decided that students will return in phases.

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

On Monday 4th January 2021, Year 11 students will return to school, in uniform, as previously planned and communicated. They should arrive in school for 8.30am via their usual bubble entrance.

Year 11 will begin their Pre-Public Examinations as planned on their return. We have stressed the importance of these exams to your children; this year, they hold more importance than ever before, so please do ensure your child revises throughout this holiday so that they can achieve the highest grades possible.

The school will also be open to welcome back any vulnerable children, and the children of Key Workers from Tuesday 5th January, just as we were during the lockdown in the summer term.

The school will contact you if we deem your child to be in our vulnerable category.

For Key Worker families, if you are intending to send your child into school, you must contact the Attendance Team each morning from 5th January 2021; that way, we know which children we are expecting in school for safeguarding purposes.

For all other children not in school, our Pastoral Team will contact them during the week for a wellbeing check as we did in the first lockdown period.

All other year groups must remain at home from 4th to 8th January 2021.

Years 7 to 10 must return to school on Monday 11th January 2021, again through their usual bubble entrance.

All students in Years 7 to 10 will be provided with a range of home and online learning to complete, every day, by their teachers. Please encourage your child to attend live online lessons and complete the tasks set to ensure that their learning is affected as little as possible.

All relevant access and support for your child to access online learning is on our website:

<https://ninestiles.org.uk/students-working-from-home/>

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Hartfield Crescent, Acocks Green, B27 7QG | 0121 628 1311 | enquiry@ninestiles.org.uk

Thank you as always for your support. We look forward to seeing all students back in school so that their excellent learning can continue. If you have any concerns, please email principal@ninstiles.org.uk This email account will be checked on a regular basis throughout the holiday.

In the meantime, we wish you all a peaceful and safe break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alex Hughes', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alex Hughes
Principal