



10 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Staggered start for return to school in January

The Government is taking a cautious approach to the Omicron variant of Coronavirus and in January schools in England are required to Covid-test students as they return from the Christmas break. This inevitably means that the start of term will be a little disrupted, but we will ensure that remote learning provision is in place for each day your child is at home so that disruption to learning is kept to a minimum.

We will stagger the return to school for pupils to enable us to conduct testing for those for whom we have received parental consent. If you have given consent, you will receive information next week to confirm the date and time of your child's appointment. The table below shows when your child will be starting school and gives details of how they should access remote learning. **Please note that the return to school dates for each year group below are for all students, not just those coming to school for a lateral flow test.** We recommend that any student who is not being tested in school conducts a lateral flow test at home the day before returning to school.

Year Group	Lateral Flow Testing Day (LFT)	Return Date to School	Remote Learning Offer
7	Tuesday 4 January	Wednesday 5 January	Work will be posted on Satchel One as per timetable on 4 January
8	Tuesday 4 January	Wednesday 5 January	Work will be posted on Satchel One as per timetable on 4 January
9	Wednesday 5 January	Thursday 6 January	Live Lessons on MS Teams as per timetable commencing 4 January
10	Wednesday 5 January	Thursday 6 January	Live Lessons on MS Teams as per timetable commencing 4 January
11	Thursday 6 January	Friday 7 January	Live Lessons on MS Teams as per timetable commencing 4 January
12 & 13	Thursday 6 January	Friday 7 January	Live Lessons on MS Teams as per timetable commencing 4 January

## **Attendance**

If your child is unwell, we ask that you inform the school by calling the attendance office on 01752 402679 or emailing [attendance@plymstockschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@plymstockschool.org.uk). This includes informing the school if your child has tested positive for COVID and is therefore having to self-isolate. These attendance procedures also apply to the remote learning period, so we are aware that your child may not be able to complete their work. Teachers will register students who are attending live lessons and we will contact you if your child is not attending.

## **Remote learning**

### **Years 7 and 8**

Students will be expected to complete work for the 5 lessons shown on their school timetable for Tuesday 4 January. They will access this work in the same way as they access their homework, using Satchel One. The work completed must be brought to the first lesson they see their teacher when back at school. Our expectation is that students work for 50 minutes for each lesson, and they try their best to complete as much work as possible in that time. We recognise that students who are attending school for a Lateral Flow Test may not be able to complete all work.

### **Years 9 and 10**

Students must log onto MS Teams by 9am on Tuesday 4 January and Wednesday 5 January.

Teachers will deliver lessons live on MS Teams as per your child's timetable and lessons will last 45 minutes. Lessons will take place at the following times:

Period 1: 9.05 - 9.50am

Period 2: 10.05 - 10.50am

Period 3: 11.35 - 12.20am

Period 4: 12.35 - 1.20pm

Period 5: 2.15 - 3pm

Students are expected to attend live lessons; teachers will register the students who attend, and the pastoral team will contact you if your child is not attending lessons. We recognise that not all students may have a device on which to access MS Teams and therefore the work will also be placed on Satchel. Lessons will be recorded so that students can access them at a different time but attending live lessons will enable students to participate and the teacher will be available for support with the work. All work must be brought to the first lesson they see their teacher when back in school.

Students in year 9 will be reminded how to log on to MS Teams during their Computing lessons and year 10 will be reminded of how to do this by their tutor in registration.



## **Years 11,12 and 13**

Students must log on to MS Teams to attend all their lessons as per their timetable on Tuesday 4 January, Wednesday 5 January and Thursday 6 January. Teachers will deliver lessons live on MS Teams and lessons will last 45 minutes. Lessons will take place at the following times:

Period 1: 9.05 - 9.50am

Period 2: 10.05 - 10.50am

Period 3: 11.35 - 12.20am

Period 4: 12.35 - 1.20pm

Period 5: 2.15 - 3pm

Teachers will register the students who attend, and the pastoral team will contact you if your child is not attending lessons. We recognise that not all students may have a device on which to access MS Teams and therefore the work will also be placed on Satchel. Lessons will be recorded so that students can access them at a different time but attending live lessons will enable students to participate and the teacher will be available for support with the work. All work must be brought to the first lesson they see their teacher when back in school.

## **Reading in years 7, 8 and 9 (DEAR Time)**

Students in years 7 and 8 read for 30 minutes a day when in school. Year 9 students read in some of their lessons. On the days that students are at home, reading will take place as homework and students will be expected to read for 30 minutes each day. No other homework tasks will be set.

If a member of staff is absent due to illness we will try to post suitable work on Satchel but there will be no live lesson. To ensure a smooth start to the term, we ask that you check that your child knows how to access MS Teams from home if they are in years 9 to 13 (the year groups that will be accessing remote learning via Teams) and that they let their tutor know if they are not able to do so.

Yours sincerely



Louise Duff (Mrs)  
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER (CURRICULUM)

