



Our Ref: MLD/GJW

December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Return to School in January 2021 and coronavirus testing

As you may be aware and may have heard in the news, the government has directed schools to undertake a staggered approach to the start of the new term in January next year with a view to control and reduce the spread of Coronavirus, and also to support the school in being able to make plans for carrying out Coronavirus testing for pupils and staff. As the school received notification regarding arrangements only late yesterday, we have therefore had very limited time to plan for these arrangements. Nevertheless, provision has been organised as per the information detailed in this letter.

The school will reopen on Wednesday 6th January 2021 for **Year 11 pupils only**; Year 11 attendance is compulsory. Pupils whose parents are **key workers**, or who are deemed as **vulnerable** have the option to return on this date, however it is not compulsory. Please note that parents/carers of those children deemed 'vulnerable' will be contacted separately to establish your intention regarding your child's return to school on the above date.

If you are a key worker and provided evidence of this during the previous lockdown, you will also be contacted separately to establish whether or not your child will return to school on 6th January. If you are key worker, but **your child did not attend** Healing School during the last lockdown, and you wish them to return on 6th January, please contact the main school office by **12 noon** on **Monday 21st December 2020**, providing evidence of your key worker status (via name badge, work ID badge, letter from employer or similar). **Please use the link below for more details about which workers fall into these categories:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Once again, as attendance is optional for the above groups, the government has requested that parents/carers keep their children at home, wherever possible, therefore if it is not necessary for your child to attend school, they should remain at home.

All other pupils, from Years 7 – 10, will return to school on Monday 11th January 2021. From Wednesday 6th January, pupils should access their learning remotely, via Google Classroom and using the Google Classroom codes that they have been issued with by their teacher. If your child experiences any problems or issues in relation to their remote learning during these



three days, please do not hesitate to contact the school via office email (office@healing-school.co.uk) or telephone the school office on 01472 502400.

Pupils in Years 7 – 10 who are eligible for free school meals will also be contacted separately regarding provision during the first week of January.

In relation to mass testing, the school's intention is to undertake roll-out plans for testing of pupils (and staff) in the new year. Once again, the school is only just in receipt of guidance regarding testing, and will therefore communicate further information to you in due course, possibly during the start of next week.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during further unprecedented circumstances. The well-being and safety of our pupils and staff at Healing School remains our highest priority.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M. Dewland
Principal