



18th December 2020

The South Wolds
Academy
and Sixth Form

Dear Parents and Carers,

Government announcement 17th December 2020

Following my end of term of letter on the 17th December, I did not envisage having to write to you again before the end of term, but you will most probably have seen reports across the media of a government announcement, [here](#), regarding the staggered start of the Spring term for all secondary schools in England. Whilst my team and I have been digesting this news, further information has been shared with us from the DfE and I am now able to give you a firm plan of what this announcement means for us all. I appreciate you may feel a little bombarded with information and my apologies for this!

Based on the situation as we understand it at the moment:

1. Monday 4th January will now be an INSET day for all students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12.
2. Years 11 and 13 will however recommence their timetabled lesson on site on Monday 4th January and all students are expected on site in full school uniform. School transport will continue to operate as normal and the canteen will be open at break and lunch.
3. From Tuesday 5th January, Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will engage in remote learning and lessons will be accessible via Google Classroom. All homework will continue to be set on Show My Homework. Staff will run their lessons and be available via email and Google Classroom during the timetabled period for your child if they have any questions. More information regarding the remote learning offer will be available on our website from 4th January. All students in these year groups will then return to full time education on site on Monday 11th January.
4. Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 who meet the government's definition of vulnerable will still be required to return to school on the 5th January. Staff have been working since yesterday evening to identify who these students are and will contact parents today to explain arrangements for the 5th January. **Please do not send your child to school on the 5th January unless you have been contacted and told to do so.**
5. Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 whose parents are working in a role that is critical to the Covid-19 response will still be able to attend school from Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th January. These students will work at a computer in school following the same remote curriculum as other students in the year group. Our experience is that this will only be a very small

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Deputy Head Teachers



number of students and it should only happen when the students are not able to work safely at home for this week. If you think this applies to you and you think that your child will not be able to work safely from home, then you will need to complete a form which we will publish on the website in the next few days. **Please do not send your child into school on the 5th January unless you have completed this form.**

6. Students in Years 11 and 13 will be offered the opportunity to have two rapid tests three days apart during the week beginning the 4th January. Testing will be **optional** but strongly encouraged, particularly in areas of higher prevalence of the virus. Consent will be required from the student or parent as appropriate. We will contact you when we know more about how this will work.

If you need help with your child accessing remote learning then we can look at loaning equipment out but are limited with resources. Please contact the main office on 4th January should you need any help.

As soon as I have any more information I will be in touch with you again and for now please continue to stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Halina Angus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

Halina Angus
Head Teacher