



BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parents/Carers

I wrote to you yesterday and explained that I would need to write to you again regarding arrangements for the start of the Spring Term in January given government announcements due to be made yesterday afternoon.

From the guidance published yesterday evening it would seem that only vulnerable children, the children of key workers and pupils in Years 11 and 13 are expected to return full-time in the first week of term (beginning Tuesday 5th January) and that all other pupils are expected to learn remotely until Monday 11 January from whence they can return to the school site. The list of what constitutes vulnerable children is set out below.

“Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children’s social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children’s social care services or in the process of being referred to children’s services
 - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
 - those at risk of becoming NEET (‘not in employment, education or training’)
 - those living in temporary accommodation
 - those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example, due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
 - care leavers
 - other children and young people at the provider and local authority’s discretion including pupils who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health”



The above seems to apply whether or not schools commence asymptomatic testing of pupils from the start of term, which in practice is virtually impossible.

I do not know how the debate over this sudden and unexpected change will play out on the national stage over the next fortnight, however I wanted to give you as much notice as possible that the start of term could be different to what we had all planned for and envisaged. As a parent myself, I completely understand your need to know what plans you need to put in place, particularly if you have children in Year 7 who legally cannot be left home alone.

I will write to you again when there is any greater clarity.

I can only apologise again for this mess, which is not of the school's making.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Sharon Japp
Headteacher

