

Hayle Academy

31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As many were expecting Cornwall has now moved to Tier 3 and further announcements have been made by the Government about secondary school re-opening in the Spring Term. To confirm the re-opening arrangements for parents: on Monday 4th January, Hayle Academy will be closed to all students for staff training. This is an important preparatory day as we finalise arrangements for remote teaching, onsite provision for vulnerable students and children of critical workers and the large scale testing programme for staff and students.

On Tuesday 5th January we will re-open for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers only. All other students will be taught remotely using our online learning platforms, Show My Homework and Google Classroom. Children of critical workers who cannot be supervised at home need to be pre-booked into our onsite provision, where they will access the remote learning from on site. If you would like to request this support and have not already done so, please use the Google form linked below and ensure we have your booking by Sunday 3rd January at the latest. Wherever possible, we would ask parents to arrange supervision at home and only request school supervision where absolutely necessary. This will help us to be able to continue to train staff and make arrangements for the testing programme: something which is complex and outside the 'normal' operations of a school. The support of our parents in minimising the number of students on site for the first weeks of term is very much appreciated.

<https://forms.gle/2TVUcefny8LbdQvx9>

From Wednesday 6th January we will begin to roll out our testing programme for staff and students. The Government will provide us with sufficient testing facilities to test every member of staff and every student. Year 11 will be prioritised to ensure their tests have been completed before they return to school from Monday January 11th. Students in other year groups will be tested in the days and weeks that follow and all students will return to school from Monday January 18th.

To provide an outline of the testing programme: students will need to have two 'lateral flow' tests (a simple swab of their nose and throat) which they will self-administer, supervised by staff. Results from the tests will be available the same day, within a short period of time. Students who test positive will need to have a further test (arranged by parents through the NHS Test and Trace service before they can attend school). The school will inform parents next week about the date and time slot for their child's tests. We hope the vast majority of our students will be tested as an important part of our arrangements to minimise transmission within the school and avoid disruption to education which could be caused by 'bubble' closures.

Please find attached a letter, adapted from the Government's model letter, explaining more details about the testing programme and a consent form. No student will be tested without parental consent and your support in providing consent to us as soon as possible is very much appreciated. Please use the link below to complete the consent form.

<https://forms.gle/4AgtKg6w12mgP6Yv6>

Further details about our online provision and testing programme will be provided for parents on Monday 4th January. At the moment, the school remains closed and any email enquiries will be answered when the school re-opens. Should parents have any questions, please email either enquiries@hayleacademy.net or your child's head of key stage and our staff team will contact you as a priority on Monday 4th January.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a very happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to welcoming students back to school in January.

Yours faithfully,



Simon Horner
Head of School

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