



31 December 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

I hope that you have managed to have a good Christmas break and I apologise for writing to you in the school holidays. However, you will know that the Government has announced some changes to how the new term will start. Milton Keynes has been identified as a high Coronavirus transmission area and is therefore subject to more stringent contingency plans which will delay the start of term and mean that many students will start the year learning at home.

In the first week back, starting on **Tuesday 5th January** (Monday 4th is a training day and school is closed for students), the school will only be open for children who are classified as being vulnerable or children of critical workers. We have previously asked parents to let us know if they wish to take up a place for this provision - if you need a place please complete the [linked form](#) by Sunday 3rd January 2021. We will confirm provision places and arrangements on Monday 4th January. Some Sixth Form students have external exams scheduled for this first week back - these will take place as normal. All other students will move to home learning.

In the second week back, starting on **Monday 11th January**, the school will be open for vulnerable and critical worker children and all students in Year 11 and Year 13. Students in Years 7,8,9,10 and 12 will continue to learn from home.

We will write again during the week beginning 11th January to inform parents of the arrangements for the week beginning **Monday 18th January**

We are very disappointed to have to return to conditions that we last experienced in April but for the moment the Government considers that this is the safest course of action given the local transmission rates and the prevalence of the new variant of the virus. We have been told that these arrangements will be reviewed regularly over the coming weeks and we will not wish to have home learning to continue for any longer than necessary. Mrs Satyanadhan will be writing to you on Monday to outline the expectations for home learning.

The Government has also announced plans for mass Coronavirus testing in schools from the start of term. I will write to you about this separately with more details of how this will take place and how you can opt in to the programme.

Thank you for your continued support of Lord Grey Academy.

Yours sincerely

Jim Parker
Principal

