

EBE/srg

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Year 11 Students and Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you managed to take a break this holiday from your studies and had time to recharge and refocus for the year ahead. We are all facing such uncertain times still and I know for many of you, this is increasing the pressure you already feel due to the public exams still planned to go ahead this summer.

Whilst one of our priorities will always be to help you achieve the very best outcomes to give you the best future chances, we have to ensure that we can keep you, our other students and staff safe from Covid. The government have decided that this week, it is more appropriate to teach you remotely rather than in person at school. Therefore, we will be delivering to you all six lessons according to your usual timetable. Lessons will be delivered through Google Classrooms like we did last year. We have asked staff to deliver for about half an hour, leaving you then with a task to complete off screen for 20 minutes. This will ensure regular screen breaks for you and a chance to embed your learning from the 30-minute session. It may not always be your teacher delivering the session but it will be a subject specialist. There will be no tutor time each day to give you another chance to have a break from the computer. The codes are attached to this letter so you can access each lesson. If you have any problems logging on, please contact IT support via email. The email address is [help@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:help@willingdonschool.org.uk) and copy us in to [talktous@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:talktous@willingdonschool.org.uk) Please use your usual school email and password to log into Google Classroom.

**The lessons are not optional and are compulsory.** We will be following up on any absence to the sessions so if you are unable to attend, please notify us of your absence using the reporting absence icon in Edulink or email [studentabsence@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:studentabsence@willingdonschool.org.uk) The highest standards of behaviour and engagement are expected in the sessions and you could be removed from the session if you are affecting the learning of others. Please remember all sessions are being recorded for safeguarding purposes.

I aim to write to you again later this week to explain the plans regarding mass testing. It is likely you and your parents will be asked to consent to you being tested for Covid over the next couple of weeks. We are hoping we can start testing later this week so more details will follow shortly.

We have also been in contact with Stagecoach about the bus services and they have advised us that currently the services 57 & 58 are not operating. All other services are operating as normal.

Look after yourselves, stay safe and follow the guidelines whilst you are not in school to reduce the infection rates so you are able to return to school safely. Make sure you engage with the on line learning that your teachers are working hard to produce for you. Mr Curtis and Ms Johnson will be in touch with more specific details about the lessons.

Best wishes,

Ms E. Beer  
**Headteacher**

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