



Poynton High School and Performing Arts College

Head Teacher: Mr D. Waugh

18 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to start this letter by simply saying, Happy Christmas. I hope you have a safe, healthy and peaceful Christmas break. This has been a term like no other before it and we are all so very grateful for your support and help in allowing us so successfully to support your children with a full in-school and remote-learning provision.

You will not be naïve to the latest information emerging from government in regard to the start of term in the New Year. We are getting this information at the same time as you and will be working over the break to ensure we have a full provision of learning in January, alongside track and trace systems and the opportunity for in-school mass testing.

To support the successful return of students to school in 2021 the following arrangements will apply.

- Year 11 will be in school as normal from Monday 4 January 2021
- Year 13 will be in school as normal from Tuesday 5 January. Students who are sitting BTEC exams in that week will do those exams as normal. Lessons for Year 13 will be online on 4 January
- Other years will access their learning remotely from Monday 4 January. This means that they will have their lessons through Google Classroom. They will follow their normal timetable, including registration time at 8.45am, and lesson timings will operate as they would do when they are in school normally. They will access the work in that first week in the normal subject classroom not the self-isolation classroom on Google Classroom
- If students have any problems with Google Classroom they should email support@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk and our Network Support Team will help them
- We will allocate places for key worker, EHCP and vulnerable children. A survey has gone out to parents and carers of children in Years 7-9 and we are in the process of contacting parents and carers of vulnerable and EHCP students in Years 7-10. This provision will enable students to access online learning at school rather than at home as the rest of the year group will do. They will work at computers and be expected to wear school uniform as normal
- BTEC students in Year 12 will come in to school for their mock and external BTEC examinations that will take place in the first week. We will email parents of those students separately to confirm those arrangements
- If, during the week of remote learning, you have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child please do contact the welfare leaders for the team and they will be able to support.

We will hopefully receive more information from the government during the holiday and Mr Dean will provide an update towards the end of the holiday about the return to school.

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We continue to run a track and trace service up to and including Christmas Eve. If your son or daughter tests positive between now and Christmas Eve, please e-mail us at info@phs.cheshire.sch.uk so that we can support in the management of self-isolation and ensure families are safe and fully informed going into Christmas Day.

All it leaves for me to say is thank you. Thank you for your support over the last 7 ½ years and I would like to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas. As I move on to pastures new, I know that Mr Dean, your head teacher from January onwards, will continue to ensure that Poynton High School is a great, celebratory and successful school for the betterment of all of our young people. Thank you for your support and we look forward to a smooth start to learning in the first week of term.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Waugh
Head Teacher