

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Government Announcement – UPDATED staggered start in January.**

As you may have seen in the news late yesterday, the Government have announced changes to the staggered start in January. Hence, I am writing to inform you of how this will impact on our children's return to the Academy after the Christmas break. The opening of schools in January information which contains yesterday's announcement can be read [here](#). These changes can be confusing and frustrating, hence for The Orme Academy the announcements mean:

**Students in Years 7-11 who are children of critical workers, or any vulnerable learners** (e.g. students with an EHCP or a social worker) will return to the Academy on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Students should arrive at the usual times, via the usual entrances for their relevant year group. Students will follow their normal timetable and be taught by their usual teachers, who will also be supporting students at home virtually. We will operate on the information we hold from the previous lock down for students in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 regarding the children of critical workers. If your circumstances have changed then please contact Mr Lakin via email as soon as possible ([clakin@toa.shaw-education.org.uk](mailto:clakin@toa.shaw-education.org.uk)). For Year 7 students, if you believe you are a critical worker then you must contact Mr Lakin to confirm your child's name and your occupation. We already hold the relevant information for vulnerable learners.

**Most Year 11 students** will now NOT return to the Academy on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January as previously planned. Year 11 must remain at home and engage in online remote learning for the first week of term. It is currently planned that they will return to the Academy on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. On this date, students should arrive via the usual entrance and usual times.

**All other students in Years 7-10** must remain at home and engage in online remote learning for the first 2 weeks of term. It is currently planned that they will return to the Academy on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. On this date, students should arrive via the usual entrance and usual times relevant to their year group.

	w/c Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	w/c Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	w/c Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January
<b>Children of critical workers/ vulnerable learners in Y7 - 11</b>	Attend onsite	Attend onsite	Attend onsite
<b>All other Year 11 students</b>	Remote learning from home	Attend onsite	Attend onsite
<b>All other students (Year 7 – 10)</b>	Remote learning from home	Remote learning from home	Attend onsite

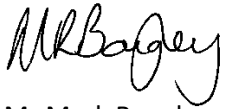
Further information about how to access the work via the VLE and additional teacher support via Teams for some lessons will be shared in a separate letter. If any support is required for students in receipt of Free School Meals, then please do not hesitate to contact the Academy.

Please accept my sincerest apologies for the change in plans. I recognise that this is really late notice for some families, but this is a directive issued by the Department for Education.

Schools are currently in the process of figuring out how to deliver a mass testing facility over the coming weeks. I will write to you again with the details of this in the coming days. It is possible that students may be invited into school for such testing in advance of the dates outlined above.

We have learnt that the landscape rapidly changes. This letter updates you as to the details accurate today, but we must be prepared that the dates outlined above may change at short notice. I will endeavour to keep you as up to date and informed as possible.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Boughey', written in a cursive style.

Mr Mark Boughey  
**Principal**

