



# SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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29<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you managed to have a restful Christmas this year, albeit a very strange one for everyone.

Unfortunately, as a school, we do not have a great deal of control over the national picture, and I had really hoped that we could have exercised our specific school context going into the new term. However, with the new strain and the accelerated numbers of COVID infections, it would be unwise to take any risk with the health of your children.

With this in mind, we are going to follow the Government's initial plans that only Year 11 and Year 13 will return to school on Monday 4th January. After communications from the DfE, it would be rather foolish to go against their current plan and therefore, in line with the Government, there will be a staggered start to the term in January. This will allow teachers some time to amend their teaching plans for remote learning and for our Heads of Department time to ensure that our remote provision has been quality assured. We will confirm our remote learning plans on Monday 4th January with remote learning for years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 commencing on Tuesday 5th January.

To summarise our current staggered return plans:

Monday 4th January - Year 11 and Year 13 return for their normal face to face timetable.

Tuesday 5th January - Remaining year groups will be taught remotely. Details to be confirmed on 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Monday 11th January - All students return.

I also wanted to alleviate any parental concerns that mass testing would be commencing on Monday 4th January. It will not; as I said in my previous communication, there are a number of logistical issues to address and these will not be resolved quickly.

With parameters changing so frequently, the plans for a staggered start may well be amended before the 4th January. If this is the case, I will be in contact again to explain how any national decisions affect STFS.

Best wishes and a happy new year to you all.

Yours faithfully,

Neale Pledger  
Headteacher

