

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

Following the announcements of the Prime minister on 4<sup>th</sup> January we have been reviewing the guidance and information provided to us.

As all our students have EHCP's the guidance is clear that the government feels that the best place for our students is in school. However, we appreciate that given the current situation some parents may not feel this is the best thing for their child or their family. If this is the case, then we respect your decision to keep your child at home but we would ask that you inform us of your decision via [office@chilternway.org](mailto:office@chilternway.org) so that we can make a record of this and record your child's attendance appropriately. We have been given permission by the DFE to approve absences of this nature during the current lockdown.

If you do choose to keep your child off school, we will do our utmost to provide online learning for them, however any work that is provided will be uploaded on to the teams service after the school day has finished. Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide a face-to-face service online during the day as our teachers will be fully deployed in school teaching lessons and supporting the students who are in school.

If you initially choose to keep your child at home and later decide you would like them to come in please contact the school office so that we can plan for their return.

If you are happy for your child to return to school then we plan to continue with our phased return as previously communicated on 4<sup>th</sup> January. This means that we will be expecting students to return in the following order;

- Wednesday 6th – Year 7, Post 16
- Thursday 7th - Year 10, 9AB
- Friday 8th – 9HR, Year 8

We will be continuing with our testing program in school with staff and students all being tested on at least a weekly basis to do our utmost to keep everyone in school safe. Please ensure you have completed the [consent form](#) and [registration form](#) prior to your child's return so that we can ensure the process runs as smoothly as possible.

If you have any further queries regarding school opening, then please do not hesitate to contact us via the office email address.

Best regards

Nick Hall

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