



St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699

Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

Monday 21 December 2020

Dear Families

My apologies for writing to you at the beginning of the school holiday. However, as you have already seen and heard in the news, the Government has announced that schools have been asked to set up covid rapid test centres, and will have a staggered start to the new term in January.

The staggered start is to limit the number of students on site after the holiday period to reduce the rate of transmission of the virus, and to enable schools to begin to set up and carry out covid tests.

Please see below the arrangements for the start of term in January 2021.

1. **MONDAY 4 JANUARY - School is closed for all students.** Staff only. This is an additional training day given to schools to prepare for remote learning and to consider the logistical challenges of setting up covid rapid test centres on site.
2. **TUESDAY 5 JANUARY - Year 11 and 13** will return to school and will be on site for face to face lessons following their normal timetable. **Year 12** will be in school only for public exams.

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 remain at home and learn remotely from **Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 January**.
All students will have virtual registration with their form tutor at 8.50am.

3. If your daughter is in **Years 7 - 10** and has an Education or Health Care Plan (EHCP) has social worker support, or is in care, your child can attend school from **Tuesday 5 January** and access remote learning in the ICT suite, the same learning as their peers. If you are a Critical Worker (eg NHS, Health Care, Education or other) and you cannot accommodate your child at home to remotely access her studies, please contact the school to **book a place** so that she can work in the ICT suite to access her lessons from **Tuesday 5 January**. Please email the school on homelearning@stmartins.academy with the name of your daughter and her form and identify which Critical Worker occupation you hold.
4. **MONDAY 11 JANUARY** - It is expected that all students in **ALL Year Groups** will be in school. However, since we finished on 17 December London, which was in Tier 3, has now moved into Tier 4 from 20 December. We remain alert for what the government may introduce as further restrictions, come January 2021.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, we will update you further on how you can receive a meal for the school days Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 January 2021.

If your child does not have remote access and does not come under any of the categories above, paper copies of learning materials will be sent home.

In relation to when the mass testing is likely to begin. The Government has yet to provide schools with concrete information and details of how this will work. However, please rest assured, St Martin's will not start testing until we are fully and properly set up, it is safe to do so, and have communicated with you. Even then, no child will be tested without parent/carers written consent.

I am sure you will appreciate that this is a huge logistical challenge and this news came at the end of the school term. Once more information is received over the coming days, it will be communicated to you as quickly as possible. Please do not be alarmed by the contents of this letter, we are working in very challenging times and as a school, our paramount concern is the safety and wellbeing of the entire community. We will work with you and all stakeholders to ensure we adhere to any guidance as appropriate.

Keep up to date with [Covid-19 updates](#) on our website. I will undoubtedly be in touch before the start of term.

Thank you for your continued support and for your trust during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely

Beverley Stanislaus
Headteacher

Headteacher Mrs Beverley Stanislaus B.Ed. NPQH

155 Tulse Hill London SW2 3UP T 020 8674 5594 F 020 8674 1379 www.stmartins.academy

St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales

Registered Number 07984073. Registered office: 155 Tulse Hill, London SW2 3UP

WITH LOVE AND LEARNING

