



1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Dear parents & carers,

I would like to formally introduce myself to you as the new Head teacher at Orchard Park High School. From my first visit I had a strong sense that this was the school I wanted to lead and serve: I feel very privileged to now begin this endeavour. I am looking forward to continuing the work of Mrs Mingay. I am fortunate to have joined a school with a dedicated staff body that can offer me their great experience of our community, and I know they will be instrumental in taking Orchard Park on the next part of its journey.

Whilst I am sure that the rest of this academic year will continue to look different to previous years, I am optimistic that with a testing and vaccination programme we will soon be able to return to normality. Please be assured that we will be here to support you and your family, and to deliver a fantastic education to all our students. I believe that with great teaching, an enriching curriculum, support from both school and home, and wonderful experiences, every child is capable of the excellence that will help them to access any path in life. I am very excited to meet you in person when we are able to, and I look forward to working in partnership with you all.

You may be aware that the Secretary of State for Education made a statement to the House of Commons in which he outlined some changes regarding the return to school. Headteachers have not been given any more information than has been shared with the media. There are now three stages to the staggered return, which are explained below. Please note that this also includes a necessary change to the mass-testing programme we had communicated prior to Christmas.

### **Week beginning 4th January**

Children of key workers, those who have EHCPs or who otherwise require an onsite provision will be able to attend school from Tuesday 5th January; please ensure you have registered your child on this link <https://forms.gle/DS8wU72rVSbb2fFq5> if you wish to book your child in for this.

**If your child is in years 7-10, they** should access work on our school website from January 5th, prepared as part of our shared Greenshaw Learning Trust online curriculum. Please click on the following link and select your child's year group, working through the days in order:

**<https://www.orchardparkhigh.co.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=115>**

- Click on the links within the document to access lessons, completing exit tickets and low stakes quizzes beneath the videos.
- Once in YouTube, there are links in the 'description' just below each video. Students need to click on 'Low Stakes Quiz' and 'Exit Ticket' to complete these tasks.
- We would also ask students to complete their usual Hegarty homework, self-quizzing and reading homework on a daily basis.

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- Year 11 will be taught using live lessons from the 5th January and should follow their normal school timetable. Your child will be sent details of how they should access these lessons in an email to their school account on the 4th January. Please ensure they check this carefully. The year 11 team will also be in touch with every student upon our return to school to ensure they are able to access their learning.
- We are hoping that we will be able to test Year 11 students for COVID-19 during this week; we will confirm this once the equipment has arrived and our staff have been trained in the process.

### **Week beginning 11th January**

- Year 11 will return to school on Monday 11th January.
- Children of key workers, those who have EHCPs or who otherwise require an onsite provision will be able to continue attend school during this week.
- All other students will continue to complete the online curriculum.
- All students will be tested (if parental consent has been given). Students in Year 11 will do this during the school day. Other students will be invited in to school at set times which we will communicate to you shortly. If you haven't already given your consent for your child to be tested, I'd be very grateful if you can do so using this link <https://forms.gle/DS8wU72rVSbb2fFq5>

### **Week beginning 18th January**

All students are expected to return on Monday 18th January.

Please contact the school via email at [admin@orchardparkhigh.net](mailto:admin@orchardparkhigh.net) if you have any questions or would like clarity on any of the information above.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms Carly Moran**  
**Headteacher**