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Principal: Mrs C Stanyer

31st December 2020

For the attention of parents/carers of children in Year 11

Dear parents/carers and students,

I did not think that when I took the job as Principal that I would be writing to you on New Year's Eve, but nonetheless, everyone at Ormiston Meridian Academy wishes you a fantastic New Year!

Following the Government announcement yesterday, plans for Year 11 students have changed. Therefore, I would like to confirm our plans moving forwards over the next few weeks:

- Students in Year 11 will now return to school on **Monday 11th January**
- Year 11 BTEC exams will carry on as usual and students taking these exams are encouraged to prepare thoroughly.
- **Students sitting the BTEC Music exam on Thursday 7th January or the BTEC Travel and Tourism exam on Friday 8th January will attend school for these exams.** You will receive a letter and phone call on Monday 4th January confirming the arrangements for the revision session, warm-up session in the morning of the exam and the exam itself.
- All Year 11 students whose parents/carers are **Key Workers** are entitled to a place in school from Tuesday 5th January if parents/carers wish for this.
- All students with an EHCP or a small number of other students who may need the support of school will also be entitled to attend school during the first week.
- The regular school expectations will be in place for any students in Year 11 who take-up a place in school in the first week. They will line up on the Year 11 yard, attend form time and will follow their usual timetable. They will attend regular lessons, however, the teachers will be delivering these lessons to the rest of the class who are learning from home using Google Classroom simultaneously.
- All students who remain at home are expected to take part in our remote education package, which will follow your child's timetable. The details of this can be found in the leaflet attached. If your child does not participate in remote learning you will be contacted by our attendance team.
- Students who do not have access to Google Classroom must contact us using the email address info@omera.co.uk on **Monday 4th Jan**. Our pastoral team will try to make arrangements for a laptop loan if possible.
- If your child has Free School meals, you are entitled to a FSM hamper for Tuesday 5th-Friday 8th January.

Next steps

Ormiston Meridian Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



This section of the letter is incredibly important because it informs you of the next steps we will take over the next few days to prepare well for next week and we require parents/carers to provide us with specific information.

- **Step 1:** We need to gather the names of the Year 11 students who are children of Key Workers and require a place in school. We will send all parents/carers a text message **today (31st December)** asking if you are a Key Worker and if your child needs a place at school. Only reply saying 'YES' if your child needs a place. If your child does not need a place then please do not reply. We politely request that you reply by **1st January** to give us time to prepare.
- **Step 2:** All parents/carers of Year 11 students who receive Free School Meals will receive a text message **today (31st December)** asking if you require a FSM hamper for the first week in January. If you require a hamper please reply 'YES' to the text message **on that day**. If your child does not need a hamper then please do not reply. Hampers will be ready for collection on Tuesday 5th January. You will receive a text with a time to collect the hamper.
- **Step 3:** Students with an EHCP and more vulnerable students will receive a phone call from Mr Darlington (Vice Principal) or Mrs Berrisford (Director of Inclusion) over the next couple of days to confirm your child's arrangements for the first week.
- **Step 4:** Families who speak no or little English will be contacted on **Monday 4th January** by our 'EAL' team to ensure you have a full understanding of the arrangements.
- **Step 5:** Year 11 students sitting the **BTEC Music exam on Thursday 7th January** or the **BTEC Travel and Tourism exam on Friday 8th January** will receive a phone call and letter with details of revision session, warm-up session and exam arrangements on **Monday 4th January**.

Lateral Flow Testing

It is our intention to formalise our testing plan early next week and we will provide all parents with information in the post as soon as possible.

I hope this letter provides you with all the information you need and we will continue to update you as and when we need to. If you do have any urgent questions relating to this please either use the email address covid19@omera.co.uk or send us a private message on our Facebook Page. These are the only 2 communication platforms that are being managed by school staff over the next few days.

Please continue to have a wonderful Christmas holiday and most importantly stay safe.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs C Stanyer
Principal