



18th December 2020

Dear Parent and Carer

The Government has yesterday (17th December) intimated that all secondary schools and colleges in England will be able to test more of their staff and students in a round of free coronavirus testing from the first week of January. They are clear that the offer of tests builds on the extensive protective measures already in place in schools and colleges to make them safe.

At Axe Valley Academy we are currently planning to ensure a safe return in January for all students. I will of course follow with more detail when we know more and we have had the time to have planned it thoroughly. However, I felt it might be helpful to confirm what we do know to help parents to plan for the published changes to return to school in January.

- **Year 11 will return to school fully on Tuesday 5th January 2021** for face-to-face education on site.
- **Years 7-10 will return to school on Monday 11th January** for face-to-face education on site. All students in Years 7-10 will be expected to engage in **remote education from 5th January-8th January 2021**.
- We will wait for Government instructions regarding rapid testing and we will inform you of this when we have more information and how the process will be carried out.
- Vocational exams scheduled in January for Year 11 will take place.
- Children of critical workers who need to attend school in the first week of January will have separate provision in place to support the remote learning whilst in school.
- Vulnerable children will have separate provision on site across this week and they will be contacted directly by Mr Scott and Mrs Cooper in the new year.

If you would like to be considered for a critical worker place from 5th January -8th January 2021 please access the survey link below and fill in your details.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HXTUB6p570WZ4rf-xO0rIYbE0FmNhLBAAnUmqv-033ytUQzg3MEhEUVRWQVU5RFE3R1pXVDhJODZEVi4u>

You will need to complete a separate form for each child if more than one child attends Axe Valley.

More information about critical workers can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>.

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[Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK](#)

All pupils in full-time education. Schools and colleges welcomed back all children and young people from the start of the autumn term. It is vital that children and young people remain in school ...
www.gov.uk

I will continue to communicate more details about the arrangements for the first week of the new year as we set the plans firmly in place and receive more information. Please do check that your child has their ClassCharts log in details and is able to access their Google Classrooms as we will again set lesson by lesson work for every lesson through ClassCharts.

Please do also look out for our wonderful newsletter which will be published later today and have a peaceful Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support at these rapidly changing times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L Jenkins".

Laura Jenkins
Headteacher