



**The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership**  
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**Richard Gill CBE NPQH, NLE, FRSA**  
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

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Dear Parents and Carers

### **Staggered Rollout of Coronavirus Testing for Secondary Schools from January**

You may have seen that the Government have announced that all secondary schools 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. This is an integral part of the national priority to keep education open to all and to help fight the spread of the virus whilst keeping schools safe.

The Department for Education (DfE) have, today, also informed us that, in order to support the implementation of this, secondary schools will operate a staggered return for students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 with online/remote learning available to them from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January. This means that students in these groups do not return to attending school until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. The remote learning available to them during this first week of term will mirror, as close as possible, the learning that students would have received had they been in school. Students in exam year groups, that being year 11 and year 13, will attend school from the start of term – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. As in the first lockdown, schools will also ensure 'on site' provision for vulnerable students and for children of critical workers during this first week back.

For those year groups in receipt of remote learning during the first week back, the headteacher of your child's school will communicate further details with you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Students in exam groups should attend school from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January according to their usual timetable. As the news regarding testing is very new to us, we will need time to digest and plan for what is expected of us and how we might go about this and this, too, will be shared with you during the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January.

This information is, as previously stated, as fresh to us as it is to you and I am sure there are many questions that may arise. As ever, our commitment and priority is to our schools and we will ensure that we communicate with you fully at the start of the new term.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R Gill', written in a cursive style.

Richard Gill  
CEO

