



Rayner Stephens

H I G H S C H O O L

Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear families,

RE: Phased re-opening of Rayner Stephens to Year 11, January 2021

Following on from the government announcement yesterday I can confirm that Year 11 learners will not be returning for face to face teaching before Monday 11th January 2021. The BTEC Music exam that is due to take place on Thursday 7th January will go ahead and the learners involved in this exam will receive a further letter from Mr. Morris on Monday detailing the arrangements for the exam.

Between Tuesday 5th January and Friday 8th January 2021 Year 11 learners will access their lessons through TEAMS live events except core PE. This is the same system they used from June onwards as part of their remote learning. They will be expected to attend all live lessons following their daily timetable. The member of staff that teaches them will email them the link to the lesson. All learners can access TEAMS through a laptop, Ipad/tablet or smart phone. There is full guidance on accessing remote learning through live lessons on the school website, including step by step videos. Any learners having issues accessing TEAMS from Tuesday onwards can contact the ICT team by ringing through to main reception or by emailing admin@rshs.aspireplus.org.uk.

Learners will be expected to attend all lessons and form time through the live events and complete all remote learning work that is set by the class teacher ready to hand in when learners return to school on 11th January.

The school has a record of all learners' ICT access at home, any learner who does not have the relevant equipment has been added to the vulnerable learners list and will be sent a separate letter advising them that they can access their learning through school from Tuesday 5th January. This is also the case for all learners of parents that are key workers as well as all other learners that are classified as 'vulnerable' using the government criteria. Dr. Potter is sending these letters out today, if you have not received one and feel that your child should be classed as vulnerable, key worker, or not having the correct ICT equipment please contact Dr Potter on m.potter@rshs.aspireplus.org.uk as soon as possible.

The school feels that remote live lessons are the best way to engage learners and provide the highest quality of remote learning at this time. However our ability to provide these lessons will depend on staff levels when we return in the New Year. The Tier 4 restrictions have led to reductions of staffing in school and as of yet we are unable to confirm how many, if any, staff are currently impacted by self-isolation/sickness. Staffing levels will be reviewed daily and if live lessons are unable to run for a particular session learners will be notified through their email and independent activities will be set for that lesson.

Achievement **S**uccess **P**rofessionalism **I**ntegrity **R**espect **E**ndeavour

Rayner Stephens High School Yew Tree Lane, Dukinfield, Cheshire, SK16 5BL **Headteacher:** Ms F. Beach
e: admin@rshs.aspireplus.org.uk t: 0161 338 2374 f: 0161 338 9200 w: www.raynerstephens.org.uk



There have been some minor changes to timetables with the timing of lessons and some changes to staffing in English to cover a maternity leave. Learners and parents can access their up to date timetable from Monday 4th January by logging into their "Insight" account using the 'Insight' app. All families have received letters on how to access Insight and these are also available on the website. Both parents and learners can download the app and access their child's personal data, letters and timetable.

Those learners entitled to Free School Meals will receive vouchers similar to the process during the first lockdown. Dr. Potter will write to you separately at the beginning of next week to inform you of how the vouchers will be distributed to you.

On Monday we are expecting the first shipment of lateral flow tests to be delivered. The school will be working quickly to recruit and train staff to support the mass testing process. School staff and Year 11 learners will be the priority group to test first, hopefully by the end of the first week. The school will write to you again at the start of the term to share the latest information about how testing will take place and the process for all learners.

At this stage the information we have been provided by the Department of Education states that Year 11 learners will be returning to school on Monday 11th January however, this is subject to review by the government. The situation appears to be changing rapidly across the country and at this stage we cannot rule out further announcements that might extend the remote learning period for Year 11 learners. As yet we do not know how long it will take for the mass testing to be ready and this will be a key factor in any review that takes place next week. If the government does announce further extensions to remote learning we will continue to prioritize Year 11 for live lessons to ensure the full coverage of their curriculum before the summer exams.

Staff will be returning to school on January 4th 2021 for the INSET day and then will be in the building throughout the week delivering live lessons and supporting the setup of mass testing. The reception will be manned as usual from 8am-4pm and all safeguarding, inclusion and SEND staff will be available throughout the day to support learners and parents if required. We understand that this continues to be a very difficult time for families and our learners. Please do not hesitate to contact the school from Monday if you feel your child is in need of additional support at this time or if you have any questions about the remote learning provision.

Thank you for your continued support, best wishes for the New Year.

Yours faithfully,



Fay Beach
Headteacher