



19 December 2020

Dear parents and carers

As you will have heard, the government have said there will be a staggered start to the new term in January. This will give the school time to plan for the mass testing scheduled to begin on Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>, the start of the Spring term will now look like this:

#### Monday 4th January

Staff INSET day – we will be working on systems and procedures for testing  
No school for students

#### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Year 11 and 13 students return for face-to-face teaching.

Children of key workers/Vulnerable students attend school. The school will be in touch with the relevant families as soon as possible.

Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will stay at home and will be taught on-line.

Our students now have experience of remote learning, guidance for those working from home between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January is on the school website. Students will be expected to follow their usual timetables and engage fully with each lesson.

Children of key workers/vulnerable students. We will be in touch with families in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 who we would like to have in school between the 5<sup>h</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> January. If you are a key worker and you would like your child in school between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January, please email [head@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@nobel.herts.sch.uk) over the Christmas break and we will be in touch with you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

#### Monday 11th January 2021

All students return for face-to-face lessons.

#### Testing

Staff and students will now be tested in school from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. We are currently exploring ways in which we can make this work, however, we do know that staff and all students, even those working at home, will have a two lateral flow tests at school in the first week of term.



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We also know that staff will be tested weekly and that students who are classed as being in close contact with someone testing positive can be tested for seven consecutive days and remain in school if their tests are negative. We will therefore be able to radically reduce the time working at home for our students. This testing is of course optional, but those who do not give consent will be subject to the usual 10-day self-isolation period.

As you can imagine, we have had little time to think about how this will work and with the lack of clarity about the logistics, there will be a huge amount of work to be done to ensure that this works effectively. As soon as we know how this is going to work, we will contact you. However, please rest assured that we will be working hard to continue to keep everyone safe in our lovely school.

In the meantime, take care, stay safe and enjoy the Christmas break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MH', written over a thin horizontal line.

Martyn Henson  
Headteacher