

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you regarding the most recent announcements from the government. It has been another very different and challenging start to a term, but we are all looking forward to reconnecting, initially online, and more gradually in person.

Can I remind you of the current return to school plans for pupils:

- **From the 6th January**, our online provision will be available for all pupils to access. For vulnerable children and the children of critical workers onsite supervision will be in place. This onsite provision is only open to eligible pupils and should only be used when it is needed.
- **The year 11 mock exams will no longer take place on 11th January.**
- **The year 12 BTEC exams will go ahead as planned.**

Testing

We continue to plan for the provision of testing and are clear that although conducting testing in our school is not compulsory, we do see the potential it has in reducing disruption caused by isolating positive contacts and by providing a greater ability to control risk. We are therefore working hard to ensure we can take advantage of the testing that has been offered and hope to implement a full testing regime by Monday 11th January. I can confirm that we have received the testing kits promised by the DfE and that staff training has begun. Our specialist risk management team is continuing to support the implementation of this process and the detailed risk assessments. Once everything is in place we will provide details of testing and access for you to give your consent. Please let me reiterate that we will not begin testing until we are fully confident that we can conduct this in a safe way.

In-school provision

The DfE have stated that the decision to limit children's attendance is about reducing the number of contacts that all of us have with people in other households. They had resisted closing schools until now, but in the face of the rapidly rising numbers of cases across the country (and within Worcester) and intense pressure on the NHS, it is now essential that every lever is used to reduce all contacts outside households wherever possible.

Therefore it is essential that the in-school provision should only be used if absolutely required. This will support the national drive to protect the NHS, reduce transmission rates and keep our community safe. In-school provision will be no different to the online learning provided.

Collection of books

As we enter an extended period of online learning we want to ensure students are fully equipped to make the most of the online learning through TEAMS. To do this, we want to make sure every student has the appropriate books and resources to work on, to capture the learning delivered by their teachers through live lessons.

We are currently collecting and collating all student's books, and will have your child's books ready for collection on Monday. If you are unable to make this time please contact the school on office@worcs.tgacademy.org.uk and we will arrange another slot for you. Below is a timetable for collection. Please keep to the time slots provided for your child's year group and alphabetical order by surname.

Date: Monday 11th January

Location: Sports Hall (accessed via main car park)

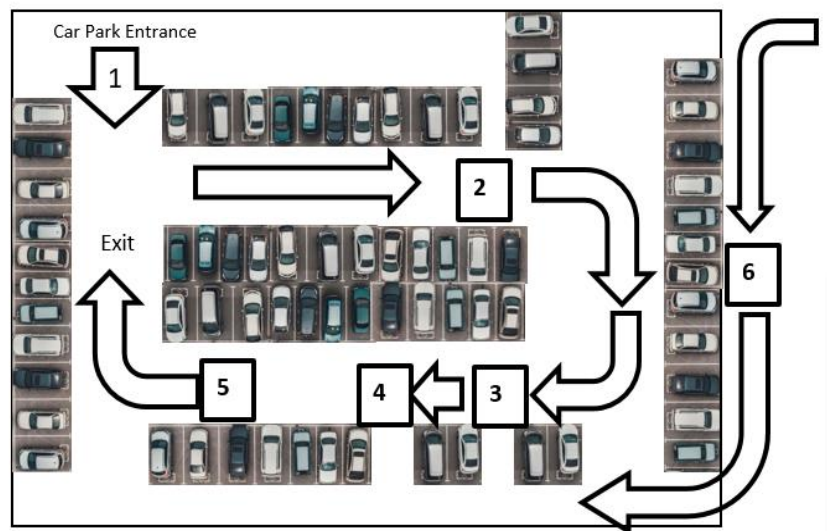


Times:

9.00 – 9.45am	Year 11	Surname A - L
9.45 – 10.30am	Year 11	Surname N - Z
10.30– 11.15am	Year 7	Surname A - L
11.15 – 12.00pm	Year 7	Surname N - Z
12.00 – 12.45pm	Year 8	Surname A - L
12.45 – 1.30pm	Year 8	Surname N - Z
1.30 – 2.15pm	Year 9	Surname A - L
2.15 – 3.00pm	Year 9	Surname N - Z
3.00 – 3.45pm	Year 10	Surname A - L
3.45 – 4.30pm	Year 10	Surname N - Z

To limit contact and maintain social distancing, we will be distributing books directly to your car from the sports hall fire exits that lead onto the car park. Access should be made through the main car park, following the instructions below:

1. Access the car park from the entrance on Drivers Way.
2. Follow the one way system around the car park.
3. Inform a member of staff of the name and year group of your child.
4. Collect your child's books.
5. Exit using the car park entrance / exit
6. Access can be gained on foot, from the main school gate and following the path around the school.



Please try to keep to the times given. Exceptions to this will be made where there are siblings in different year groups.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Butler
Principal, Tudor Grange Academy Worcester