



## The Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust

Learning Communities, Inspired by Faith

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Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year! I hope that you are well and that you enjoyed the Christmas break.

I am sure that you have been keeping up with the news over the last few days regarding the re-opening of schools. Following the Secretary of State for Education's announcement last week and the Prime Minister's announcement this morning, I can confirm that:

- All BKCAT Primary Schools will re-open for all pupils this week (on either 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> January as per the published calendars).
- BKCAT Secondary Schools and St. Wilfrid's Sixth Form will open in a staggered way:

### **Secondary School Arrangements for W/C 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

- All Year Groups are to remain at home and follow their regular timetable via remote learning.
- Children of Critical Workers and Vulnerable Pupils only on site.
  - Vulnerable Pupils and the Children of Critical Workers are able to attend if required. Vulnerable Pupils are classed as follows: Pupils with a Social Worker / Pupils in Care (Looked After Children) / Pupils with an EHCP.
  - If you are unsure about whether or not your child is eligible for a school place, please refer to the Government guidance, which can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision).
  - If you feel that your child is entitled to a place, please get in touch with your child's school.

### **Secondary School Arrangements for W/C 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

- All Year 11 and Year 13 pupils will return to school for on-site learning from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021. These pupils will follow their normal timetables.
  - All other pupils (Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10, Y12) will continue to be taught remotely.
  - Children of Critical Workers and Vulnerable Pupils will continue to attend on site.

### **Secondary School Arrangements for W/C 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

- It is the intention that all pupils in all year groups will return to school for on-site learning on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This may change depending on further Government announcements.

### **External Examinations:**

- The Government has announced that all external examinations will go ahead as planned in January. Secondary schools will notify parents of arrangements.



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### **Internal Examinations (Mock Exams – Y11 & Y13):**

- Secondary Schools will inform parents of amendments to internal examination arrangements.

### **Mass Testing Programme:**

The Government has also directed schools to stagger their reopening to allow schools an initial period of time in which to plan and launch the Voluntary Mass Covid-19 Testing Programme for students and staff. Setting up this programme will be a complex process for the secondary schools, involving detailed planning and training of staff involved. We are following the guidance of Public Health and Wakefield Local Authority. The High Schools will issue further details about the programme as soon as possible, including requesting parental consent.

### **Free School Meals:**

Schools will be in contact with families eligible for Free School Meals to arrange for vouchers to be provided.

### **Notification of Positive Covid-19 Cases:**

Please continue to notify school regarding attendance and if your child starts to display any Covid-19 symptoms, follow the issued guidance.

Sincere apologies that this update is so close to the start of the new term, but this has been unavoidable due to the timing of late announcements.

I, and the Headteachers will keep you informed on a regular basis and we look forward to welcoming pupils back at the designated times. We will continue to remain consistent and will operate in line with Government guidance.

Thank you for your support and very best wishes for a healthy and a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Fitton  
CEO