Educating Tomorrow's Women

Central Foundation Girls' School (Voluntary Aided)
Headteacher: Ms E Holland

25-33 Bow Road, London E3 2AE
Tel: 020 8981 1131   Fax: 020 8983 0188

Website: www.central.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Email: welcome@central.towerhamlets.sch.uk

18th December 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

You may have already seen in the news that the Government has announced that there will be a staggered start for students returning to school in January 2021.

Please find below the new term start details that Secondary schools have been asked to implement.

Monday 4th January 2021   **The school is closed for all students.**

Tuesday 5th January 2021   **Years 11, 12 and 13 return to school at 8.40 am and will be in school all week.**

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 remain at home and learn remotely from Tuesday 5th January until Friday 8th January.

Years 11, 12 and 13 can return to school as they have already received a test kit that must be taken and returned to the Tower Hamlets test centres before they return to school on 5th January.

Please inform the school if your child receives a positive result and your household must self-isolate from the date of first symptoms.

Monday 11th January 2021 - All Year groups will be in school full time

This is due to the Government asking all schools to set up rapid testing centres on school sites to use a 'lateral Flow test', which can produce a result within 30 minutes. All school staff will be able to be tested on a weekly basis. Students who become close contacts will be able to take a lateral flow test in school and providing this is negative and they have no symptoms, they will be able to stay in school rather than being sent home to self-isolate. Tests and the training materials will arrive in schools in the week beginning 4th January and schools will need time to train and set up the onsite testing centre.

If your daughter has been asked to stay at home until 11th January, your daughters' class will continue to be taught via TEAMS, or work will be uploaded for your daughter via our Show My Homework portal.

From Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January all students in Years 7-10 should log into their SMHW area and follow their normal timetable where their subject teacher will explain how the lesson will be delivered that day.

Transforming   Challenging   Valuing   Empowering

If your daughter is in Years 7 - 10 and has an Education or Health Care Plan (EHCP), your daughter can come into school and access her lessons through the IT Suite in school with the assistance of a TA. If your daughter does have an EHCP, your link teacher will contact you by phone to agree these arrangements with you.

If you are a Critical Worker, (e.g. NHS, Health care or Education) and you cannot accommodate your daughter at home to remotely access her studies, your daughter can access her lessons from Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January, via an IT suite in school. If you need to book a place for your daughter you can do this by emailing welcome@Central.towerhamlets.sch.uk before 4th January. Please provide your daughter's name and form and identify which critical worker occupation you hold and provide your work email contact address.
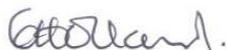
If your daughter is in Years 7-10 and she has Free School Meals you can book a FSM food parcel to be collected from school. If you require this service please complete the Microsoft form that you will receive via text or SIMS parent App during the holidays

We appreciate that this is a very late change to the start of term for some students and may be inconvenient. However, I am sure parents will understand that setting up and staffing a whole school testing centre is a huge undertaking. Schools have to find and train staff to run the testing centre in a very short space of time. It is hoped that we will be able to invite some students in Years 7-10 into school for a test in the first week, but if this is the case parents will be contacted and tests will only happen with parental consent.

The Government has yet to provide the school with the additional information required and letters for parents. Further government updates will be communicated as, and when, we receive them.

I would like to thank our parents for your continued support in these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. E Holland
Headteacher