



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Our Ref: LD/cc/DLE/JanuaryReturn

1st January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

The government [announced](#) changes to the start of term on Wednesday afternoon (30th December), with further details emerging yesterday (31st December). This letter explains how this affects your child. Please bear in mind that this is an ever-changing situation and the government could make further changes. If this happens, we will of course write to you again.

The final part of this letter includes everything from our previous letters which has not changed. We thought it would be helpful for you to have everything in one place.

Should you wish to read the full guidance for parents/carers that the government has produced you can read this [here](#). **The key change is this: the only pupils attending next week will be the children of critical workers or those with particular SEND needs. The vast majority of pupils will be learning from home.** This table shows you at a glance how this affects your child:

	6 th , 7 th , 8 th January (Monday 4 th January and Tuesday 5 th January are training days for staff so no pupils will be in school or be set remote learning through Teams for these days)	Week commencing 11 th January	Week commencing 18 th January
Children of critical workers and those with particular SEND needs (all years)	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>
Years 7, 8, 9 and 10	Stay at home and access remote learning through Teams (Assignments).	Stay at home and access remote learning through Teams (Live streams).	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>
Year 12	Stay at home and access remote learning through Teams (Live streams)	Stay at home and access remote learning through Teams (Live streams)	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>
Years 11 and 13	Stay at home and access remote learning through Teams (Live streams)	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>	<i>Pupils in school, following normal timetable.</i>

Please note that Tuesday 5th January is now also a training day, in line with government guidance.

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Remote learning through Teams

If your child is at home, they should access learning through Teams. For Years 11, 12 and 13 this will be Live streams of lessons being delivered in school. For Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be set Assignments. For the second week they will have Live streams of lessons like Years 11, 12 and 13. Check the table on the first page of this letter if this is unclear. Both Assignments and Live streams are explained in the videos on our website: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/keep-up-with-your-learning-even-if-you-have-to-stay-at-home/>

Please make sure your child has watched both videos.

Even if your child has experienced learning through Teams before, there have been some modifications. Therefore, please make sure, in advance of the new term, that they have watched the videos. Everything is explained in the videos but here are some very important points:

- If your child has any technical issues (including forgotten logins/passwords) please contact itsupport@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.
- If they are not sure about any of their work in a particular subject, they need to contact their teacher through Teams, using the Chat function.
- Where pupils are accessing Live streams, make sure your child checks their Calendar so they can see all their lessons for the week. Teachers will be scheduling their online lessons on Monday 4th January and so please have your child check they have all their lessons in the Calendar by the afternoon of this day.
- We do not envision any pupil misbehaving online. But if anyone does behave inappropriately they will be immediately removed, you will be informed and your child will most likely be banned from future lessons. Teams is constantly being monitored and lessons may be recorded to make sure no one behaves inappropriately.

We strongly encourage your child to send any work they produce to their teachers. Teachers will make their expectations clear about this in the lessons themselves.

Attendance will be monitored during each lesson.

We know that some households may have computer and internet issues so please contact us if this applies to you: postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk

If we experience technical issues ourselves during a lesson, please bear with us. We will always endeavour to get up and running again as quickly as possible.



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Pupils in school

We have contacted the bus company and, unless they tell us otherwise, **school buses** will operate as usual each week. If this changes, we will notify you as soon as we hear.

If you are a **critical worker** and you intend to send your child in to school, please enter their details at this link [here](#). If you have already filled this in following our previous letter ([18th December](#)) you do not need to do so again (we will assume they will be in for all of the school days unless you tell us otherwise). Please note that if you did request for your child to be in school on Tuesday 5th this will no longer be possible due to the additional training day. The full list of what the government counts as ‘critical workers’ is [here](#). Children of critical workers in school will follow their usual timetable and remain in year group bubbles. Hot meals will be served as usual in the Bistro for pupils who want to purchase them. Free meals will be provided as usual to eligible children. Each morning, children will need to enter school from the top gate.

If your child has particular **SEND needs**, and they should be attending school to access their full provision, we will be making contact with you individually.

With the exception of Homework Club, **after school activities** will not run for the first week. When Year 11 and 13 return week commencing 11th January, after school catch up and revision sessions (including Period 6) will continue as normal. All other clubs will recommence from 18th January.

All Year 12 and 13 BTEC exams will continue as scheduled.

Year 12

On Wednesday 6th January, Law students taking their exam on ‘Unit 1: Dispute Solving in Civil Law’ will need to come in to school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am. There will be an online revision event through Teams on the day before. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.

On Friday 8th January, Health and Social Care students sitting an exam on ‘Human Lifespan Development’ will come in to school for a revision session followed by the exam at 1.00pm. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.

On Wednesday 13th January, Art and Design students sitting an exam on ‘Critical and Contextual Studies in Art and Design’ will come into school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am.

On Friday 15th January, Sport and Exercise Science students sitting an exam on ‘Functional Anatomy’ will come into school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am.

Year 13

On Wednesday 6th January, Health and Social Care students taking their exam on ‘Enquiries on Current Research in Health and Social Care’ will need to come in to school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am. There will be an online revision event through Teams on the day before. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.



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On Wednesday 6th January, Sport and Exercise Science students taking their exam on 'Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology' will need to come in to school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am. There will be an online revision event through Teams on the day before. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.

On Wednesday 6th January, Business students taking their exam on 'Developing a Marketing Campaign' will need to come in to school for their examination only, arriving at school for 9.00am. Students with an exam clash will sit this in the afternoon and will stay on school site in between the two exams. There will be an online revision event through Teams on the day before. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.

On Friday 8th January, Health and Social Care students sitting an exam on 'Human Lifespan Development' will come in to school for a revision session followed by the exam at 1.00pm. Mrs Osborne will send details on Monday 4th.

The Year 11 Progress Evening on 7th January will take place online as planned.

Reminders

Face coverings: It is the law for all pupils (except those who are medically exempt) to wear a face covering in school communal areas. We are currently having to give out over a hundred disposable face coverings a day. Starting from pupils' first days back in January, we will be charging pupils who arrive at school without a face covering or have to be issued with one during the day. *This will need to be paid for through Wisepay.* If your child is eligible for Free School Meals we have issued them with a plain, reusable covering which they will need to bring to school every day.

Wisepay: If your child purchases food at break or lunchtime, please remember to top up your child's account before they return to school.

Uniform reminders: Full uniform checks will be taking place when pupils return to school. Here is a reminder of our expectations: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/uniform/>

We are able to provide food parcels for any **Free School Meals** pupils at home. Contact postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Finally, you will have undoubtedly heard a lot in the news about schools implementing **mass asymptomatic testing** and we will be writing to you again with more information about this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Draycott
Headteacher