

RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr M. McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

18 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Apologies for yet another communication but I wanted to get in touch in relation to the DFE announcement yesterday evening, in relation to remote learning for certain year groups and the setting up of lateral-flow testing in schools.

In regards to lessons, they have instructed that all students in Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y12 (with the exception of vulnerable or key worker children) should receive remote learning for the first week back. For us, this means that from Tuesday, 5th January until Friday 8th January, if your child is in one of these year groups, they should access their learning remotely from home via Class Charts. Please remember that the 4th January is a staff INSET Day. Your child should try to be available online at the same time as their timetabled lessons where staff will aim to deliver part of the lesson via Google Meet and be available for questions and support with work being set, this may not be your child's usual subject teacher. If your child falls into the 'vulnerable or key worker' category, I would ask that you email us at frontline@range.sefton.sch.uk and advise us that you would like a place for your child in school for these four days. I would be grateful if you could let us know this information before the 22nd December. Depending on the numbers, the children in school will likely be in their timetabled lessons and will be following the same lessons being delivered by the staff to students who are at home. Students in Y11 and Y13 should attend school as normal from Tuesday, 5th January.

Some students in Y12 are due to sit public examinations. Please bear in mind that these exams will go ahead as per guidance already issued. These students should come to school for the timetabled exams as normal.

With regard to testing, the fine detail and logistics as to how this will work have not been issued as yet. My understanding is that your consent will be sought for your child to be tested if they are identified as a close contact of a positive case and that testing will be available in all schools. Testing will not be mandatory and again, I will issue further guidance and letters of consent to you when I have more detail. The logistics of setting this up appear

very rigorous and again, my understanding is that some remote learning will allow schools the opportunity to be ready to operate the testing regime with potentially some support from the military. A similar system operated in Liverpool schools recently. Again, when I have more detail and consent information, I will issue it to you via ParentMail.

You will appreciate that neither the staff nor I are expert in any aspect of medical testing for Coronavirus. We are more than happy to do all we can to support our local community in trying to suppress the virus as much as possible. Please bear with us while we try to get this set up in as quick, as efficient and as safe way as is possible.

I will stay in touch. Again, best wishes to all of you for Christmas and the New Year.

Mike McGarry

Headteacher