



Campion School

Sydenham Drive, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 1QH

Telephone: 01926 743200 Fax: 01926 743201 Email: head@campion.warwickshire.sch.uk

Web: www.campion.warwickshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Jassa Panesar BSc, NPQH

6 January 2021

For the attention of Parents and Carers

Dear Parents and Carers

National lockdown and School closure from Wednesday 6 January

As you will know, the Prime Minister announced on Monday evening that a new national lockdown will come into force today, which will affect the opening of schools nationally. We would like to reassure the school community that we continue to be guided by central and local government at this challenging time and are continually assessing how we keep our staff and students as safe as we possibly can.

The Senior Leadership Team has discussed the government's updated response and would like to confirm the following:

- During the period of national lockdown, schools, alternative provision, special schools and colleges will remain open to vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers only. Parents of pupils in these specific groups were sent a text message before the start of term, and before this new period of lockdown, inviting them to send their children to school.
- Children with at least one parent or carer who is listed as a critical worker are eligible for a school place. It is not necessary for both parents to be critical workers.
- Public vocational exams and assessments scheduled to take place in January will go ahead as planned. Parents of pupils due to take examinations in January were sent an email/text message prior to the start of term.
- All other students will learn remotely until February half term. Pupils have been able to access their online learning, via FROG, from Monday, 4 January. (Please email Davinad1@campion.warwickshire.sch.uk with any issues when accessing FROG).
- From today, Wednesday, 6 January, Microsoft Teams lessons will begin and students must log in with their school email address and password. The Teams lessons will follow the students' normal timings of the school day.
- The government does not think that it will be possible for exams to go ahead this summer. The Secretary of State for Education will be asking Ofqual to consult rapidly on an approach to alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly. Mr Peter Forsey is working through the guidance, as it is received from the DfE, and will contact you as soon as possible with more information. Until then, we believe it is important that all pupils in exam years (Year 11 and Year 13) continue working hard so that their teachers can assess them appropriately.

Cont.....

Cont.....2

- During this period of national lockdown, we will continue to provide meal options for all pupils who are in school. Pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals will receive Asda vouchers and Mr Nick Hawkins will contact you separately with more information.

The government has confirmed that the decision to close schools is not because educational settings are no longer safe, but is about limiting attendance to reduce the number of contacts that all of us have with people in other households. In addition to these measures, Campion is also making excellent progress in the preparation of the school's rapid testing programme. Details regarding this, and how to provide consent, were contained in our letter of 5 January, which can be found on our website.

Finally, if your child is attending school during this time of national lockdown, please continue to follow the guidance and, if your child is **ill**, then they should **remain at home**. If your child has COVID-19 **symptoms**, please **keep them at home** and **arrange for a test**. The testing that will take place in school is purely for those with no symptoms. If you do have to take your child for a test due to having COVID-19 symptoms then please inform the school when you receive the results via the pupil absence line (01926 743217).

Thank you for your continued support in helping our school to remain safe for pupils and staff and for your understanding at this very challenging time. I will continue to keep you informed of any changes which we are required to implement, as soon as possible.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J Panesar".

JASSA PANESAR
Headteacher