6th January 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding the delayed start to school this January. We were very much looking forward to welcoming all of our students back for the new year and new term.

Whilst this has not been possible today, there has been a significant amount of work taken place to ensure that students can return to school as quickly as possible. This means that contractors have been on site drying, cleaning and repairing damage to the school building and this will continue throughout the week. However, it means that there are a number of classrooms out of use and due to damage caused to the boilers, there will only be certain parts of school accessible and safe for staff and students to work in and for which we can heat for all to work in comfortably.

With careful consideration to eliminate disruption as much as possible to students’ learning, we will be providing work on the VLE/ Century or time spent in school throughout this week so that all students, in all year groups are able to attend school for their first week of the Lenten Term. Prioritising Year 11 attendance is crucial as they are in their examination year. Therefore, Year 11 will be attending school daily.

This means that the plan will be as follows:

* **Tuesday and Wednesday- Years 8, 10 and 11 will attend school.**
* **Thursday and Friday- Years 7, 9 and 11 will attend school.**

Or as shown daily in year groups as below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Year 7** | VLE work at home | VLE work at home | In school | In school |
| **Year 8** | In school | In school | VLE work at home | VLE work at home |
| **Year 9** | VLE work at home | VLE work at home | In school | In school |
| **Year 10** | In school | In school | VLE work at home | VLE work at home |
| **Year 11** | In school | In school | In school | In school |

\*On the days where students are not in school, they must remain at home and complete and submit work set on the VLE. (<https://sph.fusionvle.com/login>) If you are unsure of your child’s VLE login, please contact your child’s Form Tutor in the first instance.

**Should we be able to open more classrooms and invite more students in sooner, we will keep parents informed on the afternoon of each day.** Please check emails and social media for these updates.

**If your child receives free school meals and will be working from home, packed lunches will be available for collection from Visitors’ Reception from 12 until 1 pm.**

If you have any questions or queries, please contact your child’s Form Tutor or Head of Year in the first instance. Alternatively, if your questions are subject-specific regarding work, please direct these to your child’s subject teacher using the usual email format: initial, surname, followed by @sph.srscmat.co.uk (E.G: kcox@sph.srscmat.co.uk)

Thank you in anticipation, for your understanding whilst we address these issues. We look forward to welcoming all of our students back to school this week.

Yours sincerely,

Kerrie Cox

Senior Assistant Headteacher

St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy