



Pendle Community High School & College

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Headteacher: D Grogan
Deputy Headteacher: J Bayliss
Asst. Headteacher: C Endersby
Asst. Headteacher: J Chatburn

Rated **Outstanding** in all areas 

2nd January 2021

Return to School & College January 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

First of all a Happy New Year and I hope the holidays have been enjoyable. I would just like to clarify the current situation after recent guidance.

Pendle Community High School & College is open to all students from Monday 4th January. We are currently awaiting further guidance on how mass testing could be best approached within our school setting and testing kits are going to be delivered next week. Student testing, of course, will only be with parental permission as it is not mandatory and a letter requesting consent will be sent out in due course.

Also the DfE has provided the following guidance on attendance:

Some pupils and students, for example if they are clinically extremely vulnerable are currently being advised by the Department of Health not to attend their educational setting. Education settings are being offered access to additional coronavirus (COVID-19) testing so that their secondary age pupils can be tested, reaching as many as possible as soon as is practicable.

*Schools have the option of agreeing with parents that individual pupils can stay at home. This could help to support special schools to mobilise the mass testing programme in the first week of term. The aim should be that all pupils in special schools are back in school by the second week of term (on 11 January 2021). **In maintained special schools, parents would need to request a leave of absence for their child.***

PCHS & C remains fully committed to ensuring the maximum safety of all staff and students. However, if you would prefer for your child to remain at home next week and return on Monday 11th instead of Monday 4th as planned, you can apply for leave of absence as detailed above. In order to do this please email senadmin@pchs.lancs.sch.uk or send us a message on the contact tab of the website and also inform transport of your decision so they are aware of this. If you choose this option then your son/ daughter, where appropriate, would be expected to engage in online learning.

Many thanks

Debra Grogan
Headteacher

