



# Seahaven Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

## **COVID-19 Update: Arrangements for Beginning of Term 3**

I hope that you and your families are enjoying a safe and restful holiday period.

Further to my letter to you of 18th December, the Government has announced that the staggered return to school at the beginning of January will now take place over a longer time period for schools. This is both to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading further, and also to ensure that every secondary school is fully prepared to carry out the mass testing of students when they return.

As a result of this announcement therefore, our spring term will begin as follows (Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th January are INSET days):

- **Year 11:** From Wednesday 6th - Friday 8th January, students will access a full curriculum online and will return to face-to-face learning on the school site on **Monday 11th January**.
- **Years 7- 10:** From Wednesday 6th - Friday 15th January, students will access a full curriculum online. It is planned that they will return to the school site for face-to-face learning during the week of **Monday 18th January**. Further details that set out exactly when during that week your child must come into school will be sent to you in due course.

Full details of the online curriculum for each Year Group can be accessed from the school website 'Continuity of Learning' section from Wednesday 6th January here: [Seahaven Academy > Home](#)

### **Year 11 Btec exams**

The external Btec Music exams scheduled for Thursday 7th January for year 11 students will still take place on site. Further details will be sent home to those students involved early next week.

### **Key Worker and Vulnerable children:**

The children of key workers and those who are classed as vulnerable are able to return to the school site from **Wednesday 6th January**. Due to the change in Government strategy and the increase in the spread of the virus, this provision will now only be for supervised work using the online materials set for all students and will be core school hours only. Since students will have to work in year group bubbles using an ICT room, this provision will necessarily have to be limited to one class per year group. This short-term provision should therefore only be used by those families where there is a clear case for a vulnerable student to need to complete their online work on the school site or where there is no other possible childcare available and both parents/carers have jobs which are essential to the COVID-19 response: [Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



**Principal Sarah Pringle**

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Seahaven Academy  
Southdown Road  
Newhaven  
BN9 9JL

t 01273 517601

f 01273 611182

e [office@seahavenacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@seahavenacademy.org.uk)

[www.seahavenacademy.org.uk](http://www.seahavenacademy.org.uk)

Parents/Carers will be able to fill in an online application for this provision on Monday 4th January and places will be confirmed by the end of the day.

### **Free School Meals**

Pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals will be sent vouchers in the same way as we did in the spring and summer terms.

### **Mass testing programmes**

The Government has also announced that all secondary schools are now formally required to undertake COVID-19 testing of students and staff when they return to school. Our plans to do this are already in hand and next week we will be sending you further details of how this will operate and a consent form which we would ask you to sign as swiftly as possible.

These are obviously challenging times for the country as a whole with cases of COVID-19 rising both locally and nationally. Our priority at all times, however, is to do everything we can to ensure each student receives as full and normal a curriculum as possible either in school or at home so we can continue to minimise the disruption that the pandemic causes to their education.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support for your child in their education during these times. It remains vital that, despite the ongoing challenges, every student continues to follow their online curriculum in full and comes to school as and when they are required to do so. If however your child has either tested positive for COVID-19 , is already self-isolating or is displaying any symptoms of the virus on the day they are due to return to school, please do not send them to school but contact us for further information on what you need to do.

We look forward to being able to welcome all our students back onto the school site again in the next few weeks as the new year progresses.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Pringle', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Pringle  
Headteacher