



30th December 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I do hope that you managed to have a good Christmas and kept safe and well over the festive break.

You may be aware that the government has made an announcement this afternoon regarding change to the re-opening of secondary schools in England. They have made some changes to the planned staggered starts that we had in place. We have only just received the guidance and will be back in touch with more clarity and detail at a later date. Epping Forest is an area of high infection rates and is subject to the government's [contingency framework](#). For schools in areas under the government's contingency framework, only vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and students taking external exams this year will attend school. High-quality remote education will be provided for all other pupils.

Please note the following key information regarding the updated staggered start of the Spring Term:

From **Tuesday 5th January** - school will only be open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers - all other students will stay at home and be taught remotely.

From **Monday 11th January** - Year 11 and Year 13 only will also be invited back to the school site but this is subject to testing being in place.

From **Monday 18th January** - *the school will operate under the government's '[Contingency Framework](#)' which will mean that only Year 11 and Year 13 continue to attend the school site and all other year groups will remain at home being taught remotely.*

We already had a [plan](#) in place for remote home learning and the staggered start from the 5th January. The only change is that Year 11 and Year 13 will not attend but access their lessons remotely. <https://rodingvalley.net/high-school/home-learning/>

Obviously, this information has only just been released by the government and we will keep you updated with any changes to logistics or information as soon as we know.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Jenner
Headteacher