



4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Ref: Update for Parents

Following our recent communication on the 31st December, I wanted to up-date you as soon as possible with the following information, notwithstanding that we are expecting even more information and guidance to be shared by the Government this evening in an 8pm announcement.

In line with the latest government guidance we will still be **open tomorrow (Tuesday 5th January) for our Essential School to vulnerable students and those of key workers only**, as previously planned. For further information on the definition of vulnerable students and those of keyworkers, please visit the government website [here](#).

Essential School

If your child has been allocated a place at the Essential School at Isca Academy, you will have been notified by GroupCall today. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer need a place in our Essential School but have previously booked a place, can you please let us know on the following email address: adminoffice@iscaexeter.co.uk

Timings of the school day will remain the same as usual, with online learning in school beginning at 8:45. Students need to enter the school building via their usual Year Group entrance please and they will remain in year group bubbles and static groups for the duration. Please go straight to the classrooms listed below.

Essential School Rooms by Year Group

Year 7 G41A & G41b

Year 8 F05 & F27

Year 9 F39 & F42

Year 10 F64 & F69

Year 11 F08

Students' names will be listed on the door of the rooms to indicate which room they will be using.

Please ensure that your child arrives at school in their full school uniform and with a face covering. Students in Essential School will be following their timetable and the same curriculum as those at home which will be accessed via Chromebook or PC. Therefore if your child has headphones, can they please bring them to school with them to use. We can provide them if this is not possible.

Student meals will need to be booked as they normally are using the SCOPay login. Students entitled to free school meals will have their selected meal delivered to their zone at the appropriate break time. Other students will need to bring in a packed lunch or order and pay for their meal via the SCOPay app as they did before the Christmas break. The meal options will be reduced due to the limited numbers on site but we will cater for all dietary needs. The menus will be updated on the system today.

Free School Meals – Students not in school

Students not in school but in receipt of free school meals will have a food hamper provided and details of how and when these will be distributed will follow tomorrow.

Remote learning:

We want to reassure you that we have plans in place to support you and your child during their time away from school. You will have been sent two emails via GroupCall this afternoon. The first was your child's timetable, this can also be accessed using the Expressions App (this will be fully updated by Tuesday). The second, is a letter detailing what your child will need to study each day, with details of when and how to access this.

For students in Years 10-11, teaching will be 'live streamed'. This means that students will need to dial into their Google Classroom and will be taught online 'live' by their teacher. **For students in years 7-9**, lessons will be uploaded and students will need to work independently through the material set. All students need to follow their regular school timetable and submit work / questions through Google Classroom and not via email to their teachers. We will be reviewing this provision over the next few days and weeks and as always, we value your feedback.

All information relating to our online learning provision can be found on our website:

<https://iscaexeter.co.uk/school-life/parallel-curriculum/>. This section also contains help guides and email addresses if you need to contact the school directly.

Examinations:

The public examinations scheduled to take place this month are set to continue. Students sitting these will receive individual emails from the examinations officer (Ms Luke) providing specific details about arrival times and entrance points. Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that all public examinations must be sat in full school uniform and you will need to arrive at school with a face covering as well as any stationary that you will need.

I would also like to remind you that all information relating to the examinations can be found on our website:

<https://iscaexeter.co.uk/school-life/exams/>. This section contains specific information regarding conduct in examinations and information, advice and guidance about student well-being and maintaining good mental health during the examination series.

Current guidance suggests that all remaining students will be able to return to school by Monday 18th January. However, as we are expecting there to be further guidance issued after the Prime Ministers announcement this evening, I will provide you with a further up-date as soon as we are able to and this will also include details of our testing arrangements.

Thank you, as always for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Miss Aimee Mitchell
Headteacher