

05/01/2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year, I hope you and your families are all safe and well. I'm sure you all heard the Prime Minister's update last night.

*"NATIONAL LOCKDOWN TO COME INTO FORCE ON WEDNESDAY 6 JANUARY*

*The Prime Minister has today announced that a new national lockdown will come into force at 00:01 on Wednesday 6 January. During the period of national lockdown, schools, alternative provision, special schools, and colleges will remain open to vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers(link is external) only. Public vocational exams and assessments scheduled to take place in January will go ahead as planned. All other children and students will learn remotely until February half term."*

What does this mean for us? Well sadly it means we will remain closed until at least February half-term.

- Work for students will be set on-line via Edmodo and more information will be sent out.
- Where you are a keyworker or you care for vulnerable students, then provision is available if required please contact [admin@westfield.academy](mailto:admin@westfield.academy).
- We have a number of devices that we will make available for pupil Premium students. This is in process and distribution will take place during the next week.
- Form Tutors and Heads of Year will make contact to see how things are going and if there is any extra support needed.
- Heads of Year will also do weekly assemblies for their students.
- Currently the guidance states that BTEC exams in the January series will continue as normal. If this changes we will update you as soon as possible.
- Free school Meals. We are looking at the guidance, and will let families know as soon as possible what provision will be in place.
- For exam classes (Years 11 & 13) , the current update is as follows;

*"In the circumstances, we do not think it is possible for all exams in the summer to go ahead as planned. We will accordingly be working with Ofqual to consult rapidly to put in place alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly."*

Again, once we know more we'll be in touch.

As more guidance comes out we will continue to update you all. It is very sad to think that students aren't able to come back to school after the Christmas break, but we must assume that overall this is the best thing for the country.

Best wishes

Tim Body  
Headteacher