

17th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to personally thank all students, parents and carers for the way you have adapted to what we have encountered this term. You have been incredibly resilient and shown tenacity in dealing with changes imposed on us due to COVID19. The last few weeks have not been easy and it is only by having a strong academy community that we have been able to make the best of the challenges we have faced.

We do not know what the new term will bring for us but you have my guarantee that we will all work exceptionally hard to provide the best educational provision that we able to provide. Thankfully the COVID19 vaccine is here and roll out continues across most of 2021-22. You may have seen the recent announcement this week about Lateral Flow Testing in schools and we await further details on how this will operate in practice in schools. It is hoped that having students and staff who have been in contact with a COVID19 positive tested daily in schools, will be a very good alternative to the current 10-day self-isolation period. If Lateral Flow Testing can be established in school, I certainly believe this will very much support continuity of educational provision throughout the year.

We have had notification from Thurrock Local Authority that they have plans in place for a potential impact that Brexit may have on the areas surrounding the ports of Thurrock in relation to traffic flow. They have advised that there may be a greater level of traffic congestion and for parents and carers to be prepared for increased journey time to and from school for the first few weeks in January 2021.

Please stay safe, look after yourself and we look forward to seeing all students back in the academy on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Roessler', written in a cursive style.

Mark Roessler
Principal
Ormiston Park Academy