



Health Futures UTC
350 High Street
West Bromwich
West Midlands
B70 8DJ

0121 794 2888

26 February 2021

Dear Parents

Re-opening of School and Arrangements for the Remainder of the Academic Year

You will be aware that the government has announced that schools in England are to re-open for all pupils from Monday 8th March. You may also have heard how secondary schools will be using lateral flow tests to identify positive Covid cases in students and members of staff to prevent outbreaks of Covid within school. This letter will outline Health Futures UTC's plans for both as well as our plans for the remainder of the academic year, for year 11.

Year 11 will return to school for an 8:30 start on Monday 8th March. We will be carrying out Covid tests for year 11 and 13 students before they start their lessons so students arriving earlier than 8:30 will be most welcome! If your son or daughter is 15, we will need consent from a parent before they can be tested. Students who are already 16 can consent on their own behalf. Students will take their own swabs under the supervision of trained staff. In the event of a student testing positive, you will be informed and the student will have to return home and isolate for 10 days. Re-testing of students will take place on Thursday 11th March and Tuesday 16th March. Once students have been tested 3 times they will be issued with a home testing kit containing full instructions for use, including reporting results.

During the week commencing 15th March, year 11 students will take their second set of mock exams. These exams will be crucial for us to identify the grade students are currently working at and any gaps in their knowledge. Following analysis of each student's performance, re-teaching of some topics will be done in the weeks after the mock exams. Students will have further tests and assessments to enable them to demonstrate an understanding of topics and skills that they did not achieve marks for in their mock exams.

Today, the Secretary of State for Education announced that teacher assessed grades will be submitted to exam boards in June. Prior to submission, the evidence provided by teachers to support the grades they award will be thoroughly moderated. Exam boards will also carry out external moderation. After the GCSE results are published at the beginning of



August, students will have a right to appeal their grades. We will not be permitted to discuss teacher assessed grades before they are published in August.

On their return, year 11 students will follow their normal timetables with the exception of Wednesday afternoons. The employer projects which would normally take place at this time will be suspended until June and year 11 will, instead, have interventions across all subjects. Some of these interventions will be in small groups and some may be one-to-one. School will finish on a Wednesday at 15:30. Only year 11 and year 13 students will be on site on a Wednesday afternoon. This timetable will be in place until Friday 14th May.

From Monday 17th May we will operate an intervention timetable for year 11. Details will follow in due course. The objective of this timetable will be to bring students into school if we feel we need additional evidence to justify a grade and, for some students, to teach some of the material that they have missed out on due to the two school closures. This will be of particular importance to those students who are moving onto A level courses and will help their transition to A level. Any **new** material delivered at this time will not be used towards the teacher assessed grade. The official leaving date for year 11 students will be, as in previous years, the last Friday in June.

I appreciate that there is a great deal of information included in this letter. Please email me if you have any questions or need clarification on any element of its contents.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during this very difficult period.

Yours sincerely



R Umerah
Principal

