



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL



19 January 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

When we published our school term dates for this academic year we had planned to have one of the five Staff Training Days for the year on Thursday 28 January. We have taken the decision to postpone this Training Day until later in the year. As a result, students should be engaging with remote learning throughout the day, following their timetable for live lessons and independent learning on that Thursday.

We have taken this decision as we feel that now is not the right time to plan further developmental work and that we would prefer to maintain the momentum achieved so far with remote learning, following the additional Training Day we held on the first day of this term in order to plan for the move to remote learning and for the setting up of testing, which we were asked to run for the whole school. It was then at the end of that day that the longer term closure of schools was announced.

We are also conscious of the likely need for further planning for the return of students to school, for the likelihood of the testing regime to be expanding and for planning and implementation of the proposals which we will see in the next month or so for the grading of examination courses due to take place this summer.

The likely new date for our Training Day will be in advance of the return to school for most students. As there can be no certainty as to exactly when this will be, we have not yet determined the exact date for this.

Whilst we recognise that any change to our term dates at such short notice is not ideal, we hope that students, parents and carers will understand why we are doing this. We also hope that in the current lockdown this will not prove to be as disruptive as it clearly would be if we were working as normal.

We will communicate with all students, parents and carers again as soon as we have a new date for the Training Day.

Yours faithfully,

Ms J Mortimore  
Headteacher

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