



# THE THOMAS LORD AUDLEY SCHOOL

Part of The Sigma Trust

*Headteacher: Helena Boast BA MEd*

18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to provide you with a final update of the Autumn Term. Please see the information below. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's year team. (E.g. for Year 8 email [year8@tla.school](mailto:year8@tla.school)).

## **Covid Tracking**

As a school we are required to continue our support of the "Track and Trace" system should any student test positive for coronavirus. If your child becomes unwell over the Christmas period and/or takes a test and receives a positive result please notify us as soon as possible. Please telephone 07895400543 or email [covid@tla.school](mailto:covid@tla.school). In the event that there is a positive case, the school is required by the Government to make contact with any students or members of staff who are identified as a possible contact. This continues to be the case during the holiday period. Please note in the event that a member of our school community tests positive between now and 24th December, it will be necessary to inform identified contacts that they must isolate for 10 days from the point they last had contact with the person who tested positive. This would mean that these contacts would have to self-isolate over the Christmas period.

## **Free-School Meals and Food Vouchers**

All families whose children are entitled to Free-School Meals should have received a letter explaining that they will be provided with a voucher for food. These vouchers will be able to be used in the major supermarkets. If you require more information about this please email [enquiries@tla.school](mailto:enquiries@tla.school).

## **Government Announcement - Start to Spring Term**

As I am sure you are aware, the Government announced yesterday that schools should stagger their opening in January. This means the school will have staff training on Monday 4th January 2021, where only Year 11 students, students who are classed as 'vulnerable' and students whose parents or carers are critical workers will attend. For all other children, learning will be facilitated remotely beginning on 5th January and they will be expected to return to school on Monday 11th January 2021. Please see the full details about these arrangements in a letter I will send soon.

## **Google Classroom**

Following a number of enquiries we will be giving parents and carers access to their child's Google Classrooms. This will enable parents and carers to have access to the work that has been set for their child and to see what work has been completed. In January, you should receive an email to give you a link to gain access to your child's Google Classroom. If you require any support please email Mr Pulford. ([Michael.pulford@tla.school](mailto:Michael.pulford@tla.school))

## **Police Warning**



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North East Essex Teaching  
School Alliance



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We have been made aware of some inappropriate images being sent to young people in recent weeks. Please make sure that you are aware of your child's access and monitor their social media usage.

### **Ms Boast's Departure**

You will be aware that Ms Boast leaves us after 12 successful years at TLA. In the current arrangements it has been harder for the staff and students to have been able to assemble and pass on our gratitude and best wishes to her as she embarks on the next challenge of her career. We have facilitated a number of activities to help staff and students to meet and speak with Ms Boast. There have been a number of meetings in school and Ms Boast prepared a video assembly message to all students. We have a virtual staff gathering at the end of this week to say our farewells. When we reflect on how far the school has come under Ms Boast's leadership, I am sure everybody would support me when I say thank you to her for the service she has given. Ms Boast will be really missed and we wish her the very best of luck for the future.

I would like to thank you for all of the support you have provided to your child and the school this year. 2020 has definitely been a year with a number of challenges. As a school, we are incredibly proud of the young people, who have shown how resilient and adaptable they can be. I hope you and your family have a restful and safe Christmas break and I look forward to working with you all in 2021. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries or concerns. (Email [enquiries@tla.school](mailto:enquiries@tla.school))

Yours sincerely

Mr S Essex  
Headteacher Designate