

Headteacher: Mr Paul Greig

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will have heard the latest announcement by the Government on school opening and the return, for the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

This is a welcomed announcement and all of our staff are really looking forward to seeing our students again after the last 8 weeks of remote learning.

We have been working hard as a team of staff to put together a return to school plan, in a way that supports all of our families and young people. The plan combines the returning to school with the lateral flow testing arrangements.

### Return to school arrangements

Students will start to return from the 8<sup>th</sup> March. All measures that were in place before Christmas will resume again and a reminder of the start and finish times can be found [here](#). All previous Covid measures, such as social distancing, allocating year group bubbles and hand sanitisation will continue.

The reopening will be phased to allow for us to conduct the required mass testing of students. Details of year groups return and testing days are below:

	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March		Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	
Year 7	Continue with Live lessons at home	NB: the live lesson timetable will stop at the end of the day Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March – week commencing 8 <sup>th</sup> March work will be set via Google classroom until they return to school	Remote Learning via Google classroom		Lateral flow testing (*see chart below for time slots)		Back in school as normal	
Year 8 and 9			Remote Learning via Google classroom	Lateral flow testing (*see chart below for time slots)	Back in school as normal			
Year 10 and 11			Lateral flow testing (*see chart below for time slots)	Back in school as normal				
Sixth form			Lateral flow testing (*see chart below for time slots)	Back in school as normal				

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## Asymptomatic Testing Programme

Since January, we have been delivering rapid asymptomatic testing. Rapid testing remains an important part of the Government's plan to suppress the virus, in education and childcare settings and across society. This sort of testing means that people who have COVID19 but do not have any symptoms of COVID 19, who might otherwise continue to attend educational settings, can be identified and self-isolate.

If your child has attended our school through January, they may have been offered a test, and we are now required to offer tests for all students as they return. An instruction leaflet on "how to do your test is attached – for you to show your child/ren.

Students who have given consent are required to be tested in school and will be offered three rapid tests, on their return. This will help them to get used to swabbing themselves in preparation for the home tests. Although testing is voluntary, we would encourage your child/ren to take part, **if you haven't completed the consent form, you are able to do this by clicking on this link [Consent form for testing](#) and complete by no later than Tuesday 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.**

**\*IMPORTANT – Please see below the testing times that your child is required to attend school for testing only (this will be for the first test – the remainder two tests will be conducted when they have returned to school)**

		Friday 5th Year 13 (1)	Monday 8th Year 11 (1)	Tuesday 9th Year 9 (1)	Wednesday 10th Year 7 (1)
<b>CHANGING ROOM 1</b>	Bernadette	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am
	Edmund	10.15am	10.15am	10.15am	10.15am
	Nicholas	11.15am	11.15am	11.15am	11.15am
	Patrick	1.15pm	1.15pm	1.15pm	1.15pm
	Robert	2.15pm	2.15pm	2.15pm	2.15pm
	Teresa	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm
		Year 12 (1)	Year 10 (1)	Year 8 (1)	
<b>CHANGING ROOM 2</b>	Bernadette	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	
	Edmund	10.15am	10.15am	10.15am	
	Nicholas	11.15am	11.15am	11.15am	
	Patrick	1.15pm	1.15pm	1.15pm	
	Robert	2.15pm	2.15pm	2.15pm	
	Teresa	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	

Your child should arrive 10 minutes early for their allocated time slot and must be in full school uniform. They must also wear a face mask, which covers mouth and nose when they are in school for their test. Students will enter the school by the side gates near the tennis courts, there will be signage and staff available to guide students round the building to one of the testing areas, which will be the changings rooms. They must ensure that they keep a 2 metre social distance from other students and staff. Once they have had their test your child must leave the school site immediately, work will be set for them on the testing day via Google classroom.

**Due to the large scale of testing we will only notify you if your child receives a positive result – this will be done via text message. Following a positive result your child and the household must follow the guidance and isolate for 10 days. If you do not receive a text – then your child's result is negative and they will return to school on their allocated day.**

Quick reminder of the first date of return :

Sixth Form	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 11 and 10	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 8 and 9	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 7	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March

## **Home testing**

Home testing kits will be provided to students following completion of the three tests in school. The home test kits come with clear instructions for use and how to report the results. All secondary staff will also be provided with home test kits to allow them to test twice a week at home. Testing is voluntary but we would encourage as many people as possible to take part to help reduce the prevalence of the virus. We will send more information on this, once we have received further guidance.

## **Face coverings and uniform**

Face coverings will continue to be required in all communal areas and within the school buildings. The guidance has also changed to now include wearing **masks in classrooms**. They can only be removed when eating at lunch and break and outdoor spaces. Students will be expected to attend in full school uniform and bring their own equipment.

## **GCSE and A LEVEL Updates**

The DFE are in the process of releasing information about how the awarding of subject grades will work for our exam year groups. Once we have processed this information we will be in regular contact with you and our students to provide guidance and support through this process.

Finally, I just wish to express my thanks on behalf of all our staff for the way you have supported our students over this recent lockdown. I appreciate that it has been a challenging time for all of us and we wish to work with you to ensure all of our young people can come back to school in a safe and supportive manner. We are really looking forward to our students returning to school as we have missed them. I hope you find the above information useful as we wanted to let you know of planned dates to provide you with as much information as possible at this time.

We will continue to provide you with updates and key information over the coming weeks.

**Yours faithfully**



**Mr P Greig**  
**Headteacher**