



5th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope your child is looking forward to returning to school next week as much as we are looking forward to having them back in.

Thank you for working with us to support the arrangements for Lateral Flow Testing this week. Students who have consent to undertake the Lateral Flow Testing will, in line with government guidance, receive the home testing kits after their third test in school. The government is running a similar scheme available free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people. The tests can be collected from your local test centre, or if you cannot get to a test centre, ordered online.

From Coaches communication with parents and Coachees during lockdown, we know that the past couple of months have had its challenges for students and families. We appreciate the efforts made in maintaining engagement in online learning. The high engagement levels throughout lockdown will support students in their transition back to face-to-face learning. Teachers have been focused on preparing high quality lessons that will help build students' confidence on their return. Staff have also been planning opportunities for students to reconnect with each other and with staff through a range of enrichment activities in the next few weeks. We know that students will need both pacy and purposeful learning experiences in the classroom, as well as opportunities to make memories with their friends that they haven't been able to do during lockdown.

In order to support an effective transition back into the school next week and allow Coaches and Coaching groups time to reconnect, whilst also carrying out the remaining Lateral Flow Tests, children will be returning on the following days.

Monday 8th March - Year 11

Tuesday 9th March - Year 10

Wednesday 10th March - Year 8

Thursday 11th March - Year 7 and year 9

On return to school, students will find that the same safety measures in place that they were familiar with before Christmas. Below is a recap of these:

Safety Measures

- If your child or anyone in your household has any of the recent onset of any of the following symptoms they must stay at home and not attend school:
 - a new continuous cough
 - a high temperature
 - a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

- Hand hygiene - students will need to use the hand sanitiser that are placed around the school building. This is included as they arrive to and leave school, before and after eating and when returning to lessons after break and lunchtime.
- Respiratory hygiene - students are encouraged to use the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach - tissues will be available in all classrooms.
- Reduced contacts between groups of students maximising social distancing where possible - students will remain in the year group bubbles they were in before Christmas
- Face masks - as before Christmas, it remains government guidance that students are to wear face masks when moving around the building where social distancing cannot be maintained. Additionally, the government now also states that it is 'recommended that in those settings where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn in classrooms and during activities unless social distancing can be maintained.' Therefore, we will be educating students in the importance of wearing a mask and how to wear them correctly. Please ensure your child brings a mask and a spare mask to school with them each day.

Thank you in advance for your support with the safety measures. The children responded well to these in September, and I am sure they will do the same from next week.

Year 11 Ofqual Consultation

The outcome of the Ofqual consultation has now been published. We have added further information to the Year 11 page on the website regarding this. Please visit this page for an explanation of how this affects the process of awarding grades this summer.

Online Learning

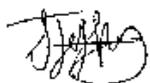
The lockdown remote learning provision will be on Moodle for children until the day they return to school. From Monday 15th March, the usual online learning, as we did before Christmas, will return and be on Moodle. This learning is an essential part of the curriculum and enables us to progress more quickly in school. Children have a range of tasks to complete. All tasks will be found on Moodle.

Your child's Coach is available for you to contact if you need any support or further clarification as the children return to school.

School Term Dates:

Holiday	Schools close	Schools open
Easter break	Thursday 1 April 2021 – 12pm	Monday 19 April 2021 – 9am
May Bank Holiday	Friday 30 April 2021 – 2.40pm	Tuesday 4 May 2021 – 8.40am
Summer mid-term	Friday 28 May 2021 – 2.40pm	Monday 7 June 2021 – 9am
Summer break	Friday 23 July 2021 – 12pm	

Yours faithfully



Samantha Jefferson

Headteacher