

01/03/2021

Dear Parents and carers

### **Schools Re-opening Plan from 08.03.21**

I hope you and your family are well and have managed to cope during the most recent lockdown. I'm sure like us, you are pleased to hear that schools are now in the process of being able to reopen. The government guidance, as below, outlines what we have to do to ensure a smooth return to school for all students from 08.03.2021 onwards.

[Coronavirus/Schools\\_coronavirus\\_operational\\_guidance%2022.02.21.pdf](#)

The key elements of this guidance are;

- All students should return from 08.03.21 and the expectation is that **attendance is mandatory**, unless they are shielding or presenting with symptoms of Covid, or a positive Covid result.
- The wearing of face coverings by staff and students in all classroom-based lessons is **mandatory from 8<sup>th</sup> March**.
- Students and staff should have a lateral flow test before they return to school. After three initial lateral flow tests have been conducted with supervision at school, we will provide students with a pack of lateral flow tests to use each week at home. We will provide more detail on home testing in due course.

We are delighted that students will return and are currently putting the preparations in place to bring staff and students back safely.

Below is the overall outline of how we intend students to return;

Parents will receive a letter specific to their child's Year group, with greater detail about the exact time and place of the Lateral Flow tests, later this week. Where students have been based in our SEN department, Ms Hayes will make direct contact with parents. However for their initial later flow test students will need to attend school **at the allotted time and then return home immediately**. Please ensure that any students arriving for the tests are in **full school uniform**. **Students must arrive with a face masks and wear it on entry to the school site**. We have a team of trained staff who will assist the students at each point of the

testing process. If you haven't yet completed the appropriate consent forms then please do so as a priority. If your child has siblings, then they are welcome to come in and have the test with the older student, on their day, but they won't return to school fully until their allocated Year group day.

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	This will be the last day for Remote Learning. Significant work should be set for the interim period before students return as there will be no lessons after this date. This will also be the last day for the Keyworker/Vulnerable students' provision.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Staff training, preparation and testing day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Years 11, 12 and 13 will be invited in for their lateral flow tests, before returning to school <sup>1</sup> on Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Years 11, 12 & 13 will start school at 8.15am Year 10 will be invited in for their lateral flow tests
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 10 will start school at 8.15am Year 9 will be invited in for their lateral flow test
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 9 will start school at 8.15 am Year 8 will be invited in for their lateral flow tests
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 8 will start school at 8.15am Year 7 will be invited in for their lateral flow tests
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 7 will start school at 8.15am. At this point all students will be safely back in school.

Although we are aware that the staggered start has its challenges, it is our duty to ensure that staff and students alike return, safely.

- There will be weekly lateral flow tests for all staff and students until the Easter break, after which time we are informed that the model will change to "home testing."
- Arrangements for school dinners will be the same as before the lockdown. Students will either order food from the canteen or bring in their own packed lunches.
- PE lessons will now take place as per student timetables. On days where students have PE they must come into school dressed for their PE lesson. Please ensure they are in full correct PE kit, (a reminder letter was sent out before Christmas) unfortunately if students aren't in the correct PE kit, they will be required to go home and change.

After the anxiety and disruption that this lockdown has caused us all, it is really important that we positively welcome the students back into school. In preparation, please ensure that all students have the following;

- Full school uniform, including school shoes and PE kit
- A water bottle
- Full school equipment, as at the start of the new school year

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<sup>1</sup> Provided that the students have a negative test result.

- A number of face masks. Students will be wearing them in classrooms as well as corridors and around school. They must have fresh masks each day.

We want them to have a really positive, welcoming start back to school, and we would all be disappointed if it started by them having to be sent home to sort their uniform or face mask. We would really appreciate your support with this. If there are any individual issues or concerns then please contact your child's Head of Year directly.

As stated we will send out more detail to each year group about how and when they arrive for their lateral tests as well as for their first day back to school, later this week.

Best wishes and keep safe

Tim Body  
Headteacher