

26th February 2021

Dear parents/carers

Further to my letter dated 23rd February 2021, I am writing to update you on the arrangements for students returning to school from 8th March.

We are very much looking forward to students returning and the resumption of normal lessons. I am sure parents will understand that, as always, we will do this with the safety of all in mind. You will also be aware that as part of the re-joining programme we have set up a centre to allow all staff and students to take a series of three lateral flow tests over the first two weeks.

To organise this, we will be reopening the site to students with a staggered start. First to return will be the older examination groups. Those students for whom we do not have permission for testing will start after our initial testing week, on Monday 15th March.

Please refer to the table below for the date/time when your child should return on their first and following days. On the first day, students are asked to arrive no more than 5 minutes prior to their allocated form group time through the main gates. On arrival at the school, their consent to the tests will be checked and they will pass through our testing centre before they attend classes.

Once students have had their test, they will attend their normal lessons. The exceptions to this are the form groups who are asked to attend initially from 2pm onwards on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. These students will return home once they have had their test.

Once tested, students will then start lessons on the following day as usual, providing they do not receive a positive result. The school will contact any parents whose child returns a positive result.

Staff will oversee the administering of the tests and train students how to do them. **Tests will be self-administered by students.** After the third test in week two or three of our return to school the system will change. Students will then be issued with home testing kits for use twice a week. Parents will need to confirm results back to the school on a dedicated online form that will be issued. You can review information on our website about [testing](#).

Any families who would like to submit their consent to testing late may do so by completing the consent form at <https://tinyurl.com/yvnsqubm>. Students who are over the age of 16 must complete the consent form themselves and therefore you should ask your son/daughter to complete this using the above link.

To maintain safety and to support this challenging operation I am sure that parents will understand that during this first week of testing, any students who arrive outside allocated times or for whom we do not have consent to testing will be asked to return home and to attend their lessons on Teams.

For clarity, students who are not going to undertake tests or for whom we do not have consent are scheduled to return to site on Monday 15th March at their usual arrival time. They should attend lessons on Teams throughout the week of 8th March.

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Lessons on Teams will be available to all students throughout the staggered return. Any time students are not on site, e.g. before their tests or in the case of those who are not being tested mentioned below, they should log in as usual from home to access their lessons.

Because students are arriving at various times throughout the day and in some cases staying for only an hour while they undertake testing, we will not be operating our catering provision on students' first day of attendance. Students though will have normal access to our ordering system on their second day of attendance. We ask that students bring with them any food, snacks or drinks that they require on the first day. There will however be provision for those students who have school meal support even on their first day of attendance.

You will also be aware that the government has stated that it is **a requirement for all students to wear face coverings inside school and now additionally in lessons** where social distancing is difficult. It is essential that all students always have their own personal face coverings on arrival at school and with them throughout the day. Again, I am sure that you will understand that we will need to ask students to return home to collect masks if they arrive at school without them.

Students who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable should continue to shield until further notice.

We aim to get normal school up and running as quickly as possible once we return but I am sure that you understand that the requirements to test the whole school three times, helping students to fit back into our bubble system and operating in a COVID safe way will form our priority for the first week.

To support students in this, we have updated our behaviour policy with a continued focus on rewarding positive behaviour. In addition, we will create clear boundaries to ensure there is no disruption or unsafe behaviour during testing or in lessons. Staff will contact parents in the normal way if any concerns arise. Having said that, I have no doubt that all students will rise to the challenge and that we will all quickly enjoy increased normality at school.

Finally, **parents of year 11 and 13 students** will have listened with interest to the long-awaited media coverage yesterday about examinations and assessments at the end of courses. We are currently examining the details of these announcements and will be in contact directly with the families concerned early next week.

If you have any queries regarding the arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Yours faithfully



N B Clemens
Principal

Form	Mon 8 th Mar	Tue 9 th Mar	Wed 10 th Mar	Thu 11 th and Fri 12 th Mar	Mon 15 th Mar
07xST	Y7 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	Y7 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	11.35	Y7 students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.15. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Mon 15 th .	All Y7 students attend school as normal at 8.15, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
07xLA			11.55		
07xTU			12.15		
07xWI			12.35		
07L			12.55		
07yST			2.00		
07yTU			2.20		
07yWI			2.40		
07yYO			3.00		
08xLA	Y8 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	Y8 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	8.15	Y8 students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.15. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Mon 15 th .	All Y8 students attend school as normal at 8.15, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
08xTU			8.35		
08xWI			8.55		
08xYO			9.15		
08yLA			9.35		
08yST			9.55		
08yWI			10.15		
08L			10.35		
08yYO			11.15		
09xLA	Y9 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	11.35	Year 9 students attend school as normal at 8.20	Y9 students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.20. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Fri 12 th .	All Y9 students attend school as normal at 8.20, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
09xST		11.55			
09xTU		12.15			
09xYO		12.35			
09yLA		2.00			
09yST		2.20			
09yTU		2.40			
09yWI		3.00			
10xST	Y10 students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams	8.15	Year 10 students attend school as normal at 8.30	Y10 students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.30. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Fri 12 th .	All Y10 students attend school as normal at 8.30, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
10xTU		8.35			
10xWI		8.55			
10xYO		9.15			
10yLA		9.35			
10yTU		9.55			
10yWI		10.15			
10yYO		11.15			
11xLA	11.35	Year 11 students attend school as normal at 8.25	Year 11 students attend school as normal at 8.25	Y11 students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.25. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Thu 11 th .	All Y11 students attend school as normal at 8.25, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
11xST	11.55				
11xWI	12.15				
11xYO	12.35				
11yLA	2.00				
11yST	2.20				
11yTU	2.40				
11yYO	3.00				
12yLA	9.35	6 th form students attend school as normal at 8.30	6 th form students attend school as normal at 8.30	6 th form students who have undertaken test 1 attend school as normal at 8.30. Test 2 commences in rotation from class on Thu 11 th .	All 6 th form students attend school as normal at 8.30, including those who have not consented to testing and those who did not have a test.
12ST	9.55				
12yTU	10.15				
12yYO	11.15				
13xLA	8.15				
13xTU	8.35				
13WI	8.55				
13xYO	9.15				
Students who have no consent or do not have a test	Students remain at home and continue with their online learning on Teams				All students attend school as normal at their usual time as above.