

24th February 2021

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Phased return to school – Week Commencing 8th March

Dear Pupils and Parents

As you will be aware, the Government has announced that secondary schools can begin to reopen in the week beginning Monday 8th March. This will be a phased reopening to enable the testing of pupils before their return to school.

We are looking forward to welcoming pupils back. We need pupils to return on their first full day back in school ready and equipped to learn. Pupils must return to school in the correct uniform. They must be ready to focus and complete the work needed during the rest of the year to prepare them for their future education, training and employment. Our staff have worked tirelessly during the lockdown to maintain curriculum delivery and we are pleased to see that the vast majority of pupils have kept up pace and are ready to get back into the normal routines of school. Our normal attendance, behaviour systems and routines will be in place from day one.

Testing will be available as follows with pupils then returning to the classroom full time the day after they have their negative test result.

Monday 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 attend school only to have a test – appointments will be issued by the school. <i>Before and after their test pupils should continue to access remote learning from home.</i> All other year groups continue remote learning all day.
Tuesday 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 return to normal lessons today and continue to now attend full time. Year 10 attend school only to have a test – appointments will be issued by the school. <i>Before and after their test pupils should continue to access remote learning from home.</i> Year 7, 8, and 9 continue remote learning all day.
Wednesday 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 10 return to normal lessons today and continue to now attend full time. Years 7 and 8 attend school only to have a test – appointments will be issued by the school. <i>Before and after their test pupils should continue to access remote learning from home.</i> Year 9 continue remote learning all day.
Thursday 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 7 and 8 return to normal lessons today and continue to now attend full time. Year 9 attend school only to have a test – appointments will be issued by the school. <i>Before and after their test pupils should continue to access remote learning from home.</i>
Friday 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All pupils are now back in full time.

Following their initial test pupils will be able to have a further 2 tests at school 3-5 days apart. Schools will manage these as part of the school day. We strongly encourage pupils to have tests however parents must consent for this and pupils do not have to have a test.

To consent for your child to participate in testing you must complete a consent form online. A link will be sent to parents by each school and the link placed on their website. You are asked to complete this no later than Thursday 4th March.



On their return to school pupils will be required to wear a face covering at all times indoors including in classrooms and will be told if they are able to remove these. Pupils should only remove their face covering when they are outside and able to socially distance from others.

The school day will continue as before Christmas with a staggered entry, start and finish times for pupils. Details of this will be sent to you as a reminder by our schools.

It is absolutely essential that if pupils, or anyone they live with, develops any one of the following symptoms they do not attend school and self-isolate in accordance with the Government's guidance.



If any of the above occurs, your child must be tested as soon as possible. It is vital that you inform us that they have symptoms and the outcome of the test they have.

In addition:

- **Your child must not attend school if they or someone in your household is awaiting a test result.**
- If someone in your household has a positive test, other members of the household should continue self- isolating for 10 days and get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, we will inform you if your child needs to self-isolate. They do not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.

It is vital that your child plays their part in keeping their peers and our staff safe by following government guidance and rules. Just like when you visit a shop we need your child to do the following whenever on our sites:



Wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds and use hand sanitizer. Always wear a face covering (unless exempt) in inside areas including classrooms and where social distancing is not possible. Socially distance and stay at least 2 meters away from our staff and pupils who are not in their bubble.

As we continue to navigate the current situation we are grateful for your support. We will continue to keep you informed of any updates through our academies. Each Academy will issue a separate letter later this week or in the first part of next week with full details regarding the school specific information you will need. We would encourage you to contact them if you have any queries.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this situation and my very best wishes to you and your family at this very difficult time.

Best wishes

Marion Plant OBE
Chief Executive Officer