

24 February 2021

Dear parent/carer

As you are aware, the government has announced that schools are allowed to re-open. Hartsdown will be reopening on the **8 March for all students** and we are really looking forward to seeing your children and getting back to our core tasks of looking after your child's welfare and their academic progress.

As part of our preparation for this we have an inset day **Friday 5 March** where there will not be remote learning or key worker provision on this date.

Student Testing

To reduce the risk of bringing Covid into school we will be conducting testing for students prior to their return. Students will be having two tests prior to return and one test in school. After this all testing can take place at home.

If you would like to have a test please:

- 1) Register here [LINK](#)
- 2) If you haven't completed the consent form please complete [LINK](#).
- 3) Attend the allotted time (see below)

	Test 1	Test 2
Year 7	26 Feb 12.30 - 3.30	3 Mar 12.30 - 3.30
Year 8	26 Feb 8.30 - 11.30	3 Mar 8.30 - 11.30
Year 9	2 Mar 8.30 - 11.30	5 Mar 8.30 - 11.30
Year 10	1 Mar 8.30 - 11.30	4 Mar 8.30 - 11.30
Year 11	1 Mar 12.30 - 3.30	4 Mar 12.30 - 3.30
6th Form	2 Mar 12.30 - 3.30	5 Mar 12.30 - 3.30

Students do not need an appointment time, they can turn up at main school reception on the given day between the times given. Please be aware, your child may have a short wait on their arrival.

Please note that we have scheduled year 8 and 9 testing to coincide with the timings for the HPV vaccine so they can have both while they are at school.

Keeping Children Safe

The changes we made for the Autumn term will continue and I have reiterated these below. In addition the government has mandated that: **Unless exempt, students must wear masks in the school building.** If students forget their mask, they will be able to purchase a disposable mask for 50p.

Children who are exempt should wear a lanyard or similar. Information about exemptions and how to acquire a lanyard are available [here](#). If you have any questions please contact SEN.

In most cases COVID19 presents little risk to children with the majority of children having no symptoms. It is however essential that we reduce the risk as some children and adults are vulnerable to serious complications if they succumb to COVID19. The following are therefore in place:

- Children have specific year areas for lunch and breaks. We have also staggered breaks.
- In KS3, children mainly stay in the same room and staff will come to them.
- Students must bring their own equipment
 - Pen/Pencil/Ruler
 - A scientific calculator
 - A glue stick
 - A protractor
 - A pair of compasses
 - Tissues
 - A good sized bag

Visiting the school

In line with government guidance parents **must** book an appointment prior to coming to the school. We **will not** admit parents without an appointment. Wherever possible we will use video or phone calls to resolve issues. If it is not possible to resolve an issue you must follow our visitors policy. <http://pln.ch/v>

Hygiene

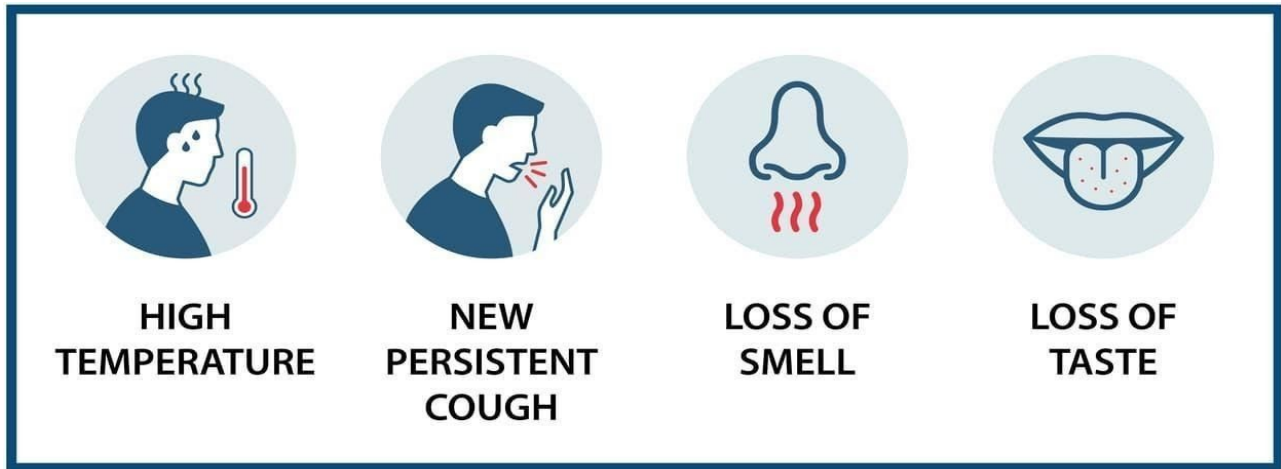
We have provided sanitiser at the entrance to the school and in every classroom. Your child must sanitise their hands on arrival at school and in each classroom. Children will also be required to follow good respiratory hygiene when they cough or sneeze following the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' advice.

Best wishes



Matthew Tate
Headteacher

Should your child come to school?



Absence (Unsure? Contact III for advice)

What to do if...	Can I come to school?	Action	When to come back to school
My child or someone in my support bubble/household has symptoms		Do not come to school Contact school Self-isolate Person with symptoms gets a test http://p1n.ch/4 Let the school know the test result	The test comes back negative Or after 10 days
My child or someone in my support bubble/household tests positive for covid19		Do not come to school Contact school Self-isolate for 10 days	After 10 days and you are well
I am contacted by test and trace and told I have been in contact with someone with Covid19		Do not come to school Contact school Self-isolate for 10 days	After 10 days
Other circumstances		Come to school If you are worried contact the school to discuss	