



23 February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

As you will be aware, yesterday the Prime Minister shared his roadmap for moving out of lockdown. We are delighted that schools will be fully open again on the 8th March and we will be able to welcome your children back onto campus. Alongside this announcement, new guidance was published by the DFE that we are in the process of digesting and forming our plans for reopening.

In order to reopen students will need to have a Covid test on site three times before testing then continues at home. With over 1500 students this presents a significant logistical challenge for us, whilst also delivering face to face and remote education, as is the expectation in the guidance.

It is apparent that we will need to stagger the return of students the week commencing Mon 8th March, so as to allow this testing to take place safely and in an orderly fashion. It is our intention to invite examination groups back first, followed by all other years. This will follow the pattern below:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Students to be tested and return home after completion</b>	<b>Students in school following a negative test</b>
Monday 8th March	Yr 13 and Yr 11	
Tuesday 9th March	Yr 12 and Yr 10	Yr 13 and Yr 11
Wednesday 10th March	Yr 7	Yr 13, 12, 11 and 10
Thursday 11th March	Yr 8	Yr 13, 12, 11, 10 and 7
Friday 12th March	Yr 9	Yr 13, 12, 11, 10, 7 and 8
Monday 15th March	Rolling cycle of testing, students removed from lessons - all week	All year groups are back

We will share more detail around exact time slots for each day of testing in the coming days, so students know when they should be on site. School buses will be provided for students to visit the site for testing.

Clearly with our staff involved in mass testing, there will be some elements of our daily running that simply will not be able to operate at normal levels, so please be mindful of this before contacting the school.

**If your child is under 16, parental consent is required, so please complete the consent form below by FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY at the latest:**

[Consent Form](#)

Within the latest guidance there has been one more significant change, that being the wearing of face covering in all classrooms and indoor spaces, unless exempt on medical grounds. This is something we will insist on, so please make sure that your child has a suitable face covering each day when they are in attendance.

All of the measures to reduce transmission will be in place on site as they were in September and we will share these again within the community. We will be updating our Risk Mitigations in line with the new guidance, to ensure a safe return to school. Thursday 25th February should also see a DFE update on what will happen with examinations this year, we will update when we know more.

I will, over the coming week send further updates so you have the information you need to be assured that your child will be as safe as reasonably possible within our campus. I know that for some this will be an anxious time but our staff are here to support you and your children should you need it.

All of our staff will do all they can to ensure a safe return and it is in all of our interests to make sure the guidance is followed to keep the community safe. As you can imagine staff are anxious about being back at school too.

Together we will make this work and as always your support is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Teece', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Will Teece  
Headteacher