



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

1 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. We are looking forward to welcoming your child back into school, and are excited to be beginning our transition back to normality while ensuring everyone's safety.

Please read the following carefully as it contains important information about your child's return to school.

Asymptomatic Testing

The government has announced that rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) will support the return to face-to-face education by helping to identify pupils who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms. **Once pupils have been tested 3 times at school, they will be provided with home test kits for regular testing.** Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged. **Pupils must have had one negative test result before returning to school.** If you still need to give consent for your child to be tested in school please give consent via the Arbor Parent App or by emailing enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk

The first 3 tests will take place in school. Your child will be guided through the testing process by the professionals on our testing team. The test involves a self-administered nasal swab (not a throat swab) and takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. Your child will not wait for their results as they take 30 minutes to develop. However, you will be contacted if the test gives a positive result. If you are not contacted then the result is negative and your child will be able to start back at school next week.

At Sacred Heart, **our aim is to have all pupils back in school, full time, from Monday 8th March.** Therefore, in order that all pupils can have their first test result before the 8th March we will commence our testing programme this week, starting Wednesday 3rd March.

Your child will be invited into school for one of the following sessions for a specific appointment time (you will be contacted with a specific time via the Arbor Parent app). Your child will need to arrive in full school uniform, wearing a face mask that covers their nose and mouth (no visors are allowed). We appreciate that your child will be excited about seeing their friends but the expectation is that every child leaves the school site immediately after their allocated first test appointment. This is to assist

Headteacher: Dr P Caldwell

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and support the safe, effective and efficient role out of the initial testing programme. Please see the timetable below:

Day, date	Year groups in school for Covid test appointment	Session 1 08:35	Session 2 09:35	Session 3 10:35	Session 4 11:35	Session 5 12:35	Session 6 13:35
Wednesday 3rd March	Y11	Y11 pupils who use school bus	Y11 pupils				Y11 pupils
Thursday 4th March	Y10, Y9	<u>Y10 Pupils</u> who use school bus	Y10 pupils	Y10 pupils	Y9 pupils	Y9 pupils	<u>Y9 Pupils</u> who use school bus
Friday 5th March	Y8, Y7	<u>Y8 Pupils</u> who use school bus	Y8 pupils	Y8 pupils	Y7 pupils	Y7 pupils	<u>Y7 Pupils</u> who use school bus

If your child is in Year 11, Year 10 or Year 8, and they usually travel to school on the school bus, your child will be collected from their normal bus stop, at the normal time and transported to school. Their test will take place at 08:35 and they will be returned home via the school bus, straight after their test. For the remainder of the day, pupils should access their live lessons.

If your child is in Year 9 or Year 7, and they usually travel to school on the school bus, your child will be collected from their bus stop on the afternoon of their test day (times to be confirmed). They will be transported to school for their test at 13:35 and they will be returned home via the school bus, straight after their test. Pupils should access their live lessons prior to and following their test.

If your child is using the school bus they must wear a face mask that covers their mouth and nose (no face visors). To assist in contact tracing, your child must sit in the seat allocated to them prior to lockdown. If your child does not have a face mask they will be refused entry on the bus.

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Week commencing Monday 8th March

Once we have completed the above, we will then be in a position to welcome your child back to school on Monday 8th March. They will report to their Tutor Room at 8.30am instead of their timetabled lesson. This is to allow us to welcome them back, explain how we plan to keep them safe and go through our expectations for the rest of the term. For that week, your child is expected to be in school all day every day for their usual timetabled lessons. We will continue to test your child in school for their remaining 2 tests so that we are able to transition to home testing as quickly as possible. Details outlining this testing schedule are given below.

Please note, all pupils in all year groups are expected to attend school from Monday 8th March.

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon 8/3/21	Induction in Tutor Time		11S&A	11C&R	11E&D

Timetabled lessons will commence as usual. Your child's test appointments will be at the following times throughout the week.

	Session 1 8.30	Session 2 9.10	Session 3 9.50	Session 4 11.05	Session 5 11.45	Session 6 1.35
Tue 9/3/21	10S&A	10C&R	10E&D	9S&A	9C&R	9E&D
Wed 10/3/21	8S&A	8C&R	8E&D	7S&A	7C&R	7E&D
Thurs 11/3/21	11S&A	11C&R	11E&D	-	-	-
Fri 12/3/21	10S&A	10C&R	10E&D	9S&A	9C&R	9E&D
Mon 15/3/21	8S&A	8C&R	8E&D	7S&A	7C&R	7E&D

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I appreciate that there is a lot of information in this letter, but I hope you can see that we are working quickly to get your child back to school as soon as possible so that we can resume their education. I will write to you again shortly, giving specific guidance around our expectations when pupils return to school on the 8th March.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Caldwell
Headteacher Sacred Heart Secondary

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