



4 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the government announcement it has been a busy time in schools planning for reopening, organising mass testing and co-ordinating our own internal assessment process in place of public examinations. As you can imagine this is a significant undertaking and we are still awaiting for some key guidance before we can clarify all points but I hope the information below helps communicate where we are currently.

I personally am very excited to welcome your children back on to campus and hope they have an enjoyable and safe return. We know there will be mixed emotions and anxieties around return but we are here to support and will do our best to welcome your children back and get them used to being at school again.

## Mass Testing

Our mass testing process is well underway and has been a great success. Students have been fantastic and our Testing Team, supported by community volunteers are amazing. We are currently on schedule and we will continue with this process in line with our previous communication, after which home testing commences.

## Home Testing - Key Points:

- Testing on site is a prerequisite for testing to commence at home. This is to ensure students are familiar with the process and avoid inaccurate results
- Tests will only be issued to those students who have been tested on campus
- Any student who has received a positive PCR test result should not complete these home tests
- Home test kits will be issued on the day of their last test with full guidance to their use and how results will be reported
- Tests should be completed before coming to school and supported by parents/carers. The test should be done well in advance of leaving for school so the outcome is known before arriving at school
- The youtube video [here](#) should help support a successful test being performed

**Any student who has symptoms should not come to school and a PCR test should be booked, please do not rely on the LFT Home Test. Your family bubble should self isolate until the result of the PCR test is known.**

## Face Coverings

In the new guidance issued to schools by the DfE it is now necessary for all students to wear face coverings in all of their classrooms. There are some exemptions on medical grounds and cards will be supplied to any students who are exempt through communication with home. Students who do not

have a card will be expected to wear a face covering in line with the new guidance and will be reminded by staff when they are not in place.

The guidance below outlines clearly what the expectations are and how masks should be correctly worn and removed:

### [Face Covering Guidance](#)

#### **Reopening**

We have looked closely at all of the new guidance and considered our Risk Mitigation plan which has now been updated. The measures that were in place before lockdown will all remain in place and be communicated to students through an assembly on Monday morning with an opportunity to ask questions of their form tutors. The key preventive measures remain focussed on:

- 1) Minimise contact with infected individuals through self isolation
- 2) Ensure Face covering are worn
- 3) Robust hand hygiene procedures
- 4) Good respiratory hygiene - "catch it, bin it , kill it"
- 5) Enhanced cleaning schedules
- 6) Social distancing and minimising contacts on site

Our detailed plans can be found on our Covid Response Page:

<https://brookvalegroby.com/covid-19-campus-response/>

#### **Remote Provision**

In accordance with the DfE guidance we will continue to offer remote provision for all learners who may still be shielding or self isolating. Our approach to remote provision at this time will be similar to what was in place pre-lockdown.

### [Remote Learning Overview](#)

Please could you let us know as a matter of urgency if your child will still be shielding on the form [here](#).

#### **Uniform**

We expect that all students will return to campus in full uniform except for days when they have PE when they can wear the agreed PE kit. We are aware that many children may have grown and shops have not always been open to address this. If this presents a problem for your child please contact the school.

#### **Examinations**

Ms Hubbard has communicated already around our provisional plans for the summer series and absence of public examinations, this letter can be found [here](#).

We have also shared our approach with students and the video presentation for this can be found [here](#).

There are still many unknowns around the finer details of this process and we are awaiting further guidance from the Examination Boards, Ofqual and the DFE. We will update you in due course.

### **Yr 11/ Yr 13 Last Day of School**

We have had a number of parents ask what will now be the last day of school for Yr 11 and Yr 13. One might reasonably assume that this is the 18th June, but this has not been clarified by the DfE yet. We hope we will be informed shortly.

### **Summer Schools**

We are still reviewing our plans around summer school and the merit of running one. It clearly is not as simple as just being offered some government funding. It needs to have a clear purpose beyond childcare and the staff to support and run it. Summer is also typically the time that significant maintenance works are undertaken too. We will communicate our intention in the future.

I appreciate this has been a lengthy letter but hope it has addressed some of the most common questions we have been receiving. Once again we are doing our best to ensure the community is kept safe, operate within the guidance we have been given and ensure there is as little disruption to learning as possible. I am acutely aware of the many differing views around what should and should not be in place within schools, but please be assured we are doing our best to work within the guidance and your support is crucial at this time.

Yours sincerely



W Teece  
Headteacher