

## Re: January Return to School Plan

16/12/21



Dear Parent and Carers,

Following the latest government announcements I am now able to share our detailed plans for the safe return in January of all students to school following the government Plan B announcement and news that the new Omicron COVID-19 variant is spreading fast. To prepare for any possible changes in public health advice, all education settings are required to revisit our existing outbreak plans to ensure we are well prepared for any future changes over the Christmas period. As I recently communicated, all secondary schools are required to provide an on-site test for students on return in January. Testing in school helps to boost participation and will help reduce transmission after a period of mixing over the holidays.

Our logistical challenge has been planning how to safely test 1700 students, whilst keeping them apart, so that students can return to school following a negative test. We are working at absolute capacity to test nearly one thousand students on the first day of term to get school fully open as soon as safely possible. This planned approach will prevent those unknowingly carrying any variant of COVID-19 from transmitting it to other students, staff or spreading it to the wider community. Our aim is to get students back into school quickly so it is **important you ensure your child attends school for their LFD test having completed a consent form for this academic year** to keep our community safe.

Students should arrive at school on their designated testing day at an appointed time to undertake a test in our test site, the Gym. Once tested they will then immediately return home. **We will be relying on parents/carers transporting students into school for the test to avoid any mixing with others.** If the test result is positive or void then you will be contacted by the testing team otherwise please presume it is negative. If you do not receive a phone call your child will be able to return to school the following day.

Year	Tuesday 4th January	Wednesday 5th January	Thursday 6th January
7, 8, 11 & 13	LFD Test - then return home. Home learning via Satchel One	First day in school following a negative test	Continue learning in school
9, 10 & 12	Live remote lessons via Google Classroom - see timetable below	LFD Test - then return home. Home learning via Satchel One	First day in school following a negative test

### Key Points - Testing

- Testing will be self-administered by students supported carefully by trained staff.
- Students will transition to twice weekly testing from home & reporting results after this test in school.
- If you have **not yet provided consent for 2021/22** then **please use the link at the bottom of this letter.**



- Students **MUST** wear a face mask when they arrive at school (unless exempt on medical grounds). School uniform is not required for the LFD test as students will be returning home immediately after their test.

### Key Points - Lessons

- On the day a year group has their first test there will be no 'live lessons', teachers will set **Home Learning** for students via **Satchel One** or Google Classroom if Year 13. This will reduce disruption to the school day inevitably caused by students coming into school for their tests and many of our staff supporting this testing.
- For years 9, 10 and 12 we will be providing 'live' remote lessons on Tuesday 4th January following the normal school timetable. **Lessons will be 45 minutes in length to allow for students to transition between lessons smoothly.** Each lesson starts on the hour for ease of remembering when to join the Google Meet.

### Tuesday 4th January only:

Year	08:40	09:00	09:45	10:00	10:45	11:00	11:45	13:00	13:45	14:00	14:45
9, 10 & 12	TT	P1		P2		P3		P4		P5	END OF SCHOOL
7, 8, 11 & 13	<b>Lateral Flow Testing</b> <b>No Live Lessons - Access Remote Work via Satchel One or Google Classroom/Email if Year 13.</b>										

  

P	Live Remote Lesson
	Screen Break
	Lunch Break

**Look out for a follow-up letter detailing your designated test time for your child.** With the volume of tests we are conducting it is critical you arrive as close to the time given as possible. Please follow the directions of staff when you arrive at school so we can manage parking safely. Entry for students this time will be through main reception.

We appreciate the challenges this testing may bring parents and carers. Please be assured that we are doing all we can to meet guidance whilst keeping our school open. If any new announcements are made we will of course contact you during the Christmas break. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. S. Brown

Headteacher

If you originally completed our consent form **prior to September 2021** please confirm you are still happy for your child to participate in testing onsite by completing a form using the link below.

Year 7 - <https://bit.ly/3DV8gbp> Year 8 - <https://bit.ly/3ETKoGt>

Year 9 - <https://bit.ly/320nvT8>

Year 10 - <https://bit.ly/3GJ6Wu2> Year 11 - <https://bit.ly/3pUhnvx>

Year 12 - <https://bit.ly/3ITQXeP>

Year 13 - <https://bit.ly/3dMQe0u>