



# Trinity Catholic High School

Headmaster: Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA

Date: 02/03/2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope your families are safe and well. You will already be aware that the government has announced that schools will reopen to all students during the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Staff at school are excited to be welcoming our students back to face-to-face lessons and we are eager to continue the outstanding work that has been going on in live and remote lessons during lockdown. In line with government guidance, the return to in-school lessons will be staggered during the week (different year groups returning on different days) to facilitate an important programme of Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests on students in school. Through this programme of testing we hope to identify anyone who may be suffering from Coronavirus before they return to live lessons. I am sure that you too will appreciate the importance of testing our students before they return to classroom teaching and therefore your support with the following matters will be greatly appreciated.

## a) Return to School:

We will operate a staggered return to school as outlined in the table below

School Reopening Plan – w/c 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2021		
Date	Year Group	Time / Group
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	AM: Year 11 PM: Year 13	8.45am: Y11 English Groups En5 to En9 (Week B2 classes) 10.30am Y11 PE Groups Pe1 to Pe5 (Week B2 classes) 1.00pm All Y13 Students that have timetabled lessons 2.30pm All Y13 students that do not have Monday PM lessons
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	AM: Year 12 PM: Year 10	8.45am: All Y12 Students that have timetabled lessons 10.30am All Y12 students that do not have Tuesday AM lessons 1.00pm Y10 Maths sets 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A and 2B 2.30pm Y10 Maths sets 2C, 3A, 3B and 3C
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	AM: Year 9 PM: Year 8	8.45am: All students in 9F, 9A, 9T and 9M 10.30am All students in 9B, 9E, 9C and 9P 1.00pm Y8 Maths sets 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A and 2B 2.30pm Y8 Maths sets 2C, 3A, 3B and 3C
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	AM: Year 7	08.45: All students in 7B, 7C, 7F and 7P 10.30: All students in 7A, 7E, 7M and 7T

Please note that:

- School attendance is mandatory and our usual rules on attendance and punctuality apply.
- On the above dates/times, all students must initially report to the Upper Site playground.
- Those students that are currently attending school (vulnerable students and the children of Key-Workers) should continue to attend school as normal from Monday next week.
- **We will be on timetable week B2 during the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> March** and students should be ready to attend lessons immediately after their first LFD test.
- Students return to their normal timetabled lessons once they have received their first 'negative test result'.

## b) Covid-19 Actions:

Students should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have recently tested positive.
- Live with someone who has symptoms or have recently tested positive.
- Are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Please follow the NHS guidance that you will have received for any of these situations.

Main School Office

Upper Site: Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TP Telephone: 020 8504-3419

Lower Site: Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TB Telephone: 020 8504-8946

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**c) Coronavirus Testing in School:**

As you will have heard in the news, students returning to school will be offered the chance to have three LFD Tests for Coronavirus. This nationwide plan is in place to identify any asymptomatic sufferers of COVID-19 and help prevent the spread of the virus in the school community. Students will be offered the tests in school and will be staggered over a 2 week period of time. Each year group will be tested on their return to school and will be told after they start when their second and third tests are. After their last test, students will be provided with home testing kits to allow twice weekly testing to be implemented at home. Students will be supported in learning how to undertake home-testing to make sure they are confident in how to carry out these tests. In order for students to be tested, we require the consent of parents. Students can return to lessons after their first "negative result". If at any point they test positive, students will need to self-isolate in line with government guidance – parents will be expected to collect their child from school.

**d) Consent for Testing:**

It is a government requirement that consent will be provided by a parent/carer for students in Years 7 to 11 in order for them to be tested in school. Years 12 and 13 students may provide their own consent. While testing is voluntary, we very strongly encourage your child to take part in this so we can help prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

All parents (and Y12 & Y13 students) must complete the "Consent Form for Covid-19 Testing" to provide or decline consent. **Completion of this form is required by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March** so that we can be prepared for the return to school next week. The consent form is available as an online form via the following link: ([Parental Consent](#))

If your child is not participating in testing, they should attend school as usual commencing from the above date and time. Please note that the 'Terms of Consent' and the 'Testing Privacy Statement' on how personal information and testing data will be used and stored for our on-site testing facility is available on the Covid-19 section of our school website.

**e) Home Testing:**

After the 3 initial tests at school, students will be offered coronavirus tests that they should take twice a week at home. I will write to parents again in the near future with details about the Home Testing arrangements.

**f) Risk Assessment / Coronavirus Safety Measures:**

Rest assured that we're doing everything we can to make sure our students can return to school safely from 8<sup>th</sup> March. I confirm that we have updated our Risk Assessment in line with government and LA advice and I ask that all students read through this document which is available on our school website and via the following link: ([Risk Assessment](#))

I would like to emphasise to the following important matters:

- **Face Coverings:** The Government has set out a requirement that, unless social distancing can be maintained, staff and students will wear face coverings in classrooms, communal areas, and corridors during the school day. I understand the concern that some parents / students may have about this advice however, I confirm that we will uphold the government's expectations on this matter here at school. This is a temporary measure and will be reviewed at Easter. For more information (PE lessons, dining hall expectations... etc) please see guidance on "Face Coverings in Education" on our school website.

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- **Ventilation:** Public Health England (PHE) advises that good ventilation is an effective component of any strategy to mitigate the transmission of Covid-19 and therefore we should keep windows and doors open to allow fresh air to circulate in classrooms. I appreciate that we still may have some cold months ahead however we will, where appropriate, ventilate (open windows and doors) in school every day. Please be reassured that the heating is recently always on and students and staff will be allowed to wear coats indoors where required. Students are still advised to 'layer-up' (wear additional undergarments under their uniform) to help keep warm.
- **Hand Washing:** It is essential that we continue to ensure we are observing good hygiene. Please speak with your child and remind them to wash / sanitise their hands often. We have placed hand sanitisers and wash stations at the entrances to our school sites and there are automated hand sanitisers in all classrooms and communal areas at school.
- **Social Distancing:** Students should not yet be socialising outside of school and this includes commuting to/from school with their friends. Remind your child/children that they should make their way directly to school and home from school without mixing with others.
- **Year Group Bubbles:** When students return to school, they will be working in year bubbles as we did in the autumn term. We will still have staggered timetables and separate lunch arrangements for each year group and we will have staggered arrangements for the start and end of day. For students that will need to be dropped off and picked up: parents should note the staggered start and finish times that operate for each year group ensuring that they adhere strictly to these times and avoid the mixing of bubble groups. Students can arrive on either Site up to 10 minutes before the stated start time. Parents should not conduct the drop off or pick-up on either Mornington Road or Sydney Road in order to reduce the congestion on the streets directly outside the school gates.

Lockdown has been a challenging period for all of us, and I'd like to thank you for your continuing support during this difficult and uncertain time. If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think your child might need extra support when they return, please contact your child's Year Leader in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Dr P Doherty OBE  
(Headmaster)

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