



5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Students

We are all looking forward to seeing you back on the school site next week. This letter contains some important information so please read it carefully.

Lateral Flow Testing will take place in the Sports Hall, as per Mrs Alexander's letters of this week. The sixth form commence onsite lessons on Tuesday, Years 9, 10 and 11 join them on Wednesday and Years 7 and 8 on Thursday.

Testing is voluntary and so, if you are not taking a LFT onsite, you would return to school with your year group. Uptake for testing has been excellent. Some children cannot take LFT or have been testing at home with their families for a variety of reasons. It is therefore important not to comment upon anyone who does not seem to take a LFT at school.

The second and third onsite LFTs will take place starting on Thursday and into the following week. Full instructions and videos have been made available so please view these before going for your first testing. Lots of your parents have volunteered to help out with the testing centre, for which the school is really grateful.

We will follow the remote lessons timetable (with an hour for lunch) on Monday and Tuesday. From Wednesday, we switch back to the same timetable we had last term, with staggered breaks and lunches. One small change is that Year 12 will have their lunch from 12pm to 1pm this Tuesday.

Once you have taken three LFTs, you will be issued with home testing kits. You will have been guided as to how the tests are taken (at school) before you need to undertake self-testing at home.

National guidance is that face masks are to be worn, where 2m social distancing is not possible, within all areas of the school (except in strenuous physical activity such as PE lessons) by staff and children; this includes classrooms. This is temporary guidance until Easter; to be reviewed then by DfE. You do not need to wear masks outside. If you are legally exempt from wearing a face covering please ask your parents/carers to email your Head of Year.

Please remember to bring a small bottle of hand sanitiser each day to school to use, and wash your hands frequently, especially when handling your mask and before eating.

We have a number of staff who will be working from home until the end of term, and so some of your lessons may be delivered to you in school remotely, by the teacher working from home.

For children in Years 11 and 13, the teachers are working hard on plans for Teacher Assessed Gradings. The main message for now is to keep working to show us how well you can do. More detailed guidance will be sent to you over the next few weeks.



Mr Corringham and the site team have been very busy. Five MFL classrooms and the corridor have been completely renovated with new flooring, the RE office has been redesigned, S7 (Media) has been remodelled, the new roof on the Old School building and Clock Tower refurbishment is almost finished and the main sewer has been replaced!

You should take some time to consolidate your remote learning work over the next few days and get ready for the return to school. If you find that your uniform or school shoes no longer fit then please do not worry. You can wear your PE kit next week if you need to.

On the days that your year group is having their first LFT, some of your lessons may be offline as lots of you will be travelling to and from school for your tests during the day. Please remember to socially distance when travelling to and from school, and when on the site.

It remains extremely important that you do not come to school if you, or anyone in your household, have symptoms of Covid. Thankfully, rates of infection are dropping nationally and locally but there are still considerable lockdown measures in place.

If you have any concerns please speak with your form tutor, Head of Year or any member of staff. We are all here to support you.

You have been outstanding during this lockdown, with excellent levels of engagement with your work. You should be proud of all that you have achieved and also excited to be coming back to school.

With best wishes

D J Gray  
Headteacher



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