



Headteacher: Mr D. Williams
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Thursday 8th July 2021

Dear parent / carer,

Following the government's announcement about lifting restrictions nationally, including in schools, I just wanted to write to outline how this will impact on how we operate from September. Hopefully this will provide you and your family with some reassurance and understanding as we hopefully return to some sense of normality in the coming months. As you will be aware, our last day of term is **Friday 16th July** which is before the country proceeds to Step 4 of the Roadmap and therefore we will continue with our existing measures until the end of term.

Year Group 'Bubbles'

From September there will be no requirement to keep children in year group bubbles or to stagger lesson starts. Pupils will therefore be able to use the site fully as before and to go to their lessons at the usual start times. However, to ease transition, our new Year 7 cohort will still retain the top yard as their allocated play area and will be asked to line up for each lesson. This is to help them to settle in and feel comfortable in their new environment during their first year.

Face coverings / Sanitiser

Face coverings will no longer be required in school, nor will they be required on school transport. Anybody who chooses to wear a face covering at any point, may do so. Hand sanitiser should also be provided and used regularly as it is now.

Self-isolation

Schools will no longer be required to undertake contact tracing; this will now become the responsibility of the NHS. Pupils and staff will only be required to self-isolate if they individually test positive for COVID; there will no longer be a requirement to send groups of pupils home, just any single positive case. Any individual who is contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive case, will be advised to take a PCR test. If that test is negative, they can return to school immediately as long as they do not have symptoms. The result of the PCR test will override any results provided by lateral flow tests. As before, nobody should enter the school site if they have COVID symptoms.

Testing

Asymptomatic testing will remain key to the government's strategy. Once back in school in September, staff and pupils will be expected to continue testing twice weekly until at least the end of the month using the LFD tests provided.

Our biggest logistical challenge will be that we are once again expected to set up a mass testing facility to carry out LFD tests for every pupil before they return to lessons. This will be over 1000 tests as we have been asked to test all pupils twice, within 3 to 5 days, on their return. We are already starting to retrain all the staff and work out how to do this as efficiently as possible. The new LFD tests we have been supplied



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with are slightly different in that they are nasal and so there will be no need for children to swab the back of their mouths.

We will therefore need the pupils to return to school in a staggered way as they did in March. They will be based in the Sports Hall as before and will begin their lessons as soon as their test result comes through (as long as it's negative!). We are planning to test 2 year groups per day throughout the first week and so would ask that year groups return to school on their allocated days. If your child is in a year group with an 11am start then it would be helpful if families could bring them in for 11 if at all possible, to avoid them waiting around too much. That said, if it is impossible due to your personal circumstances, I totally understand.

Mass Testing Schedule

Year groups should return to school for the first time after the summer break at the following times on the following dates:

<i>Year Group</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>Monday 6th September</i>	<i>8.50</i>
<i>11</i>	<i>Monday 6th September</i>	<i>11.00</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>Tuesday 7th September</i>	<i>8.50</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>Tuesday 7th September</i>	<i>11.00</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>Wednesday 8th September</i>	<i>8.50</i>

Unfortunately, the consent you provided in March has now expired and so we will need to ask you to provide consent once again. This will be in the form of an online Google Document which can be accessed via this link:

<https://forms.gle/LdxFHG3TqauuF6gy7>

I would really appreciate your support in completing these as soon as possible as any delay will slow down the process of reintegrating the children into school.

Thank you once again for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Williams