

16th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

In light of the Government's recent announcement asking schools to co-ordinate on site COVID testing when students return in January. We will be running our Asymptomatic Testing Site again, Students with consent will take one Lateral Flow Device test in school.

In order for your child to be part of this testing new consent needs to be obtained, you can provide the consent by completing the form at this link <https://forms.office.com/r/C6CyuDsYHx>

There will be a phased return to school for students and testing will take place on the day they return to school, please see schedule below, no student will be tested without consent.

	Wednesday 5 th January	Thursday 6 th January	Friday 7 th January
Year 7	Arrive @ 8.40am for form time.	Normal Day	Normal Day
Year 8	Not in School	Arrive @ 9.40am and go to their P2 room ready for a 10am start.	Normal Day
Year 9	Not in School	Not in School.	Arrive @ 8.40am for form time.
Year 10	Not in School	Arrive @ 8.40am for form time.	Normal Day
Year 11	Arrive @ 8.40am for form time.	Normal Day	Normal

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Students administer their own test with the guidance of staff. Positive results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual participant using the details provided on the consent form. The school will inform the student and parent of any positive test result. A text/email notification of a positive result from the online NHS system will be provided using the details submitted in the registration process.

What if my child tests positive?

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow device test they must follow national UK guidance - stay at home and take a PCR test. If the PCR test is negative they can return to school.

What if students have been in close contact with someone in school who tests positive?

Students under the age of 18 are no longer required to isolate if they are in close contact with a positive COVID case.

Instead, students will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test and carry out 7 days of home testing. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. Students who are not displaying symptoms can attend school while they await the result of their PCR test.

Students are encouraged to continue with home testing throughout the Christmas holidays. Test kits will be available for students to collect from the Exams office.

Any student displaying symptoms of COVID 19 should not attend school and must take a PCR test.

We will support our students throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions at all.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Miss M Green', written in a cursive style.

Miss M Green
Head of Academy