

02 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As promised, I am writing to update you with our plans for the children's return to school during the week commencing Monday 8 March 2021.

We are all really looking forward to seeing children back and learning in school as quickly as possible, but this will involve us working closely with you in order to comply with the government's instruction that we test all consenting pupils.

Thank you to all parents and carers who promptly returned their online forms. Please see the table overleaf which explains how testing and the return to school will work.

If you or your child (16 years and over) have not consented to testing, they should return to school on the 'Return to school' date and time in the table.

Students attending school for testing **on Thursday 4, Friday 5 and Saturday 6 March** are **not** required to wear school uniform and can leave the school site after their test. Students returning to school on **Monday 8 March and Tuesday 9 March must wear full school uniform.**

Year 8 and Year 9 students must also wear school uniform when they arrive for their test on Monday 8 March and Tuesday 9 March. If they are entitled to free school meals a grab bag will be available. Parents and carers of Year 8 and Year 9 students will be given the option for their children to return home after their test or to remain in school. A separate message will be sent to Year 8 and Year 9 parents and carers.

We have yet to receive the home testing kits for children, but as soon as we do, I will write again to let you know how you are to share the results.

In my previous letter, I referred to the importance of a return to formal routines, including wearing full school uniform. I respectfully repeat this request and need to make it clear that if your child returns to school without full uniform they will not be returning to lessons until this basic expectation is in place. I also repeat that staff will not have the time to deal with unnecessary uniform conversations at a time when it is far more important that we get children quickly back and learning. Those parents and carers who responded to my previous letter requesting additional support with uniform will be contacted early this week.

As a final reminder, please ensure your child has an appropriate face covering when they return to school. The government have advised that the wearing of face masks in lessons is a temporary measure and will be reviewed during the Easter break.

Thank you for your support and understanding and I hope we can work together to ensure a positive return to school for everyone.

Best wishes



Joanne Wilson
Principal