

24 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are delighted that we will soon be welcoming everyone back in to the Academy following the announcement that all schools will reopen in the week beginning March 8<sup>th</sup>.

The return to school will be staggered as it includes the expectation that students will engage in non-symptomatic lateral flow testing. Home testing is being introduced for secondary age students but the first three tests must be carried out in school, with trained supervisors, to ensure it is done correctly. Everyone is asked to participate in the asymptomatic testing programme to help reduce transmission.

We have set up the testing centre in the Academy atrium and it has been running well, with small numbers, since January 11<sup>th</sup>. We now have to plan for increased numbers hence the need to have a phased return. Please could you complete the consent form [here](#), if you haven't already done so, by 4 pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March. This will support a smooth and safe return to school.

A change in the guidance is that all students will be required to wear masks at all times; that means in lessons as well as when moving around the academy. Please ensure you send your child in with a clean mask every day. If they cannot wear a facemask for medical reasons please inform their RSL.

I will be writing to you again early next week to confirm what the final arrangements are for the full return to school. In the meantime, it would support us to know what your questions or concerns are. Please type them [here](#) so that we can attempt to address frequently asked questions through the Covid page on our website.

We expect all students to remain fully engaged in their on-line lessons and learning until they return to the Academy.

As ever, I am grateful for your continued support.

Your sincerely



Alison Lusuardi  
Headteacher