

31 August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your family have enjoyed the summer break.

You will be aware that the government have recommended that schools test all students prior to their return in September and have given schools permission to delay the return of the students for a further week in order to do this. However, given that most students and their families have been using lateral flow tests confidently at home twice a week for many months, I believe that it's unnecessary for students in Year 8-13 to come in to school to have a test done here, rather than at home.

Therefore, I would like to refer back to my letter from the summer and ask that all parents support their child in completing a lateral flow test at home before they return to school. I am keen to ensure students can return as planned, and avoid them missing any further time in school.

A reminder, if required, on how to do the tests can be accessed via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help#videos-how-to-do-a-rapid-test-at-home> If you do not have a lateral flow testing kit at home, please collect one from reception on 2nd or 3rd of September between 10am and 12noon, or of course you can pick up a kit, free of charge, from most pharmacies <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

As Year 7 have not experienced testing before, they will be tested during their first day as long as parents/carers have given their permission via the online form sent last week: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=seJqziadYkaWa8FmyQmRLcoI06TFTE1DqFs3ZnLMClpUNEFNU08wRDIKVU9VWDRBU00xSko1QzRFMC4u>


If you are the parent of a student returning into Year 12 or 13, you may have seen on the news that the government are offering all 16 and 17 year olds their first dose of a Covid-19 vaccination and I would like to encourage all our sixth form students to consider this offer (if they have not already done so). Further information can be found here [JCVI issues updated advice on COVID-19 vaccination of young people aged 16 to 17 - GOV.UK](#) (www.gov.uk).

Masks/Face-Coverings

Following updated government guidelines, staff and students will not be wearing masks/face-coverings on the school site. However, if any staff or students travel to school by public transport then it is strongly advised that they do wear a face-covering. The DfE are reviewing their guidance again at the end of September and we will react accordingly at this point.

Please enjoy the remainder of the break, I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Yours sincerely



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