

2nd March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Rapid Testing of Students (Year 8 students)

Following our recent correspondence, we are delighted to be welcoming all students back to the Academy in a phased manner from Monday 8th March. Please be assured that we are working hard to ensure that the safety of all students and staff remains our priority during this phased return.

All students will return to the Academy on **Wednesday 10th March**. Timetabled lessons, start and finish times, and the gates used to enter the site will remain the same. In the meantime, the provision on site for vulnerable learners and children of critical workers will continue for the students currently attending.

Students who have consent for the COVID-19 testing will be invited on to site at specific times on Monday 8th or Tuesday 9th March to complete the first of the 3 lateral flow tests that will be arranged by Academy staff. Students need to ensure that they follow the government social distancing guidelines on their way to and from the Academy on their testing day. There is no requirement for students to wear uniform for the testing, but they will need to wear a face mask. Please see the schedule for the lateral flow testing of Year 8 students below.

Year 8 students will continue with online lessons on Monday 8th March and those with consent for the lateral flow test are invited onto site on **Tuesday 9th March** during periods 3 and 4. Students with testing consent will need to arrive via the Sparch Hollow gates at the relevant time. It is essential that students arrive promptly for their testing time as this has been staggered to ensure that we can maintain social distancing in the testing area. During this time, there will be no online live lessons for students as the teaching staff will be supporting in the testing area. Work for any Year 8 student without testing consent or for those working on site will be provided on the VLE. Online lessons will be delivered periods 1 and 2 and will continue for Year 8 for period 5.

Students with consent for testing need to arrive at the following times:

11:15 8 FHU
11:30 8 GLO
11:45 8 SGL
12:45 8 ARO
13:00 8 PDU
13:15 8 ACU

As per the government guidelines, please contact the Academy if your child has tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 90 days and does not require a lateral flow test at this time.

Please see the following video which shows the testing process so that students know what to expect when they arrive.

<https://vimeo.com/518053813>

Tests 2 and 3 will be conducted during the first 2 weeks back, before the transition to student testing at home. Students will remain on site and will be collected from lessons to complete the second and third tests. Further details regarding the testing at home procedure will be shared shortly.

If you have any queries, or require further information at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Mrs C Woolley
Assistant Principal