

Dear Parent/Carer,

The whole team is very much looking forward to welcoming your child back to school next week. As has been the case throughout the pandemic, our utmost priority is the safety of all students and staff, and I am pleased to be able to share further details about our re-opening with you now.

**School will re-open for face-to-face teaching for all students on Tuesday 9 March.**

### **Safety measures**

To help ensure as safe a learning environment as possible, we will continue to follow the same, stringent measures as last term: year and class bubbles and zones; staggered start, finish, lunch and break times; extra hygiene practices; and additional cleaning. In line with latest advice, students will now be asked/required to wear a face covering in the classroom, as well as when moving around the school site. Please ensure your child has a face covering with them at all times – while we have a small number available in school, these are of limited supply.

As a reminder, start and finish times for students are as follows:

Year group	Start time	End time	Entry/Exit point
Year 7	8:45	14.45	Cregoe Street (Entrance point)
Year 8	8:45	14.45	Cregoe Street (Student Gate)
Year 9	8:45	14.45	Charlotte Street
Year 10	8:45	14.55	Newhall Street
Year 11	8:35	14.45	Newhall Street

Please take time to read through our Student and Parent return to school information pack which can be accessed at the following link <https://www.corecity.academy/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/City-Academy-Student-Parent-Pack-for-March-2021-Return-1-003.pdf>

### **Testing**

Before we re-open, all students must be tested for coronavirus. We have already been successfully testing staff and students learning in school, and have now made arrangements to scale up our process to test the whole community. Please be assured, we are following best practice and every member of staff involved has completed rigorous training.



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To help ensure a smooth return to school we will be testing students in phases, by year and class groups as outlined below. It is very important your child attends their test at the allotted slot and your support in helping us keep to the timetable is much appreciated.

All year 7 and 8 students will be invited to Langley Walk and all year 9, 10 and 11 students will be invited to Newhall Street on the following days to complete their three tests:

Test 1	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March
Test 2	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
Test 3	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March

Families will receive a text message to advise further on the timings for testing. In line with government guidelines, we will give each student three tests in school – after this time, we will provide kits for home testing (for both students and members of their household).

Any student who tests positive will need to isolate for 10 days, as now, and we will carry out thorough track and trace to identify – and isolate – any close contacts.

All students need consent to be tested – if you have yet to give your consent, I urge you to do so as soon as possible by following the link: <https://tinyurl.com/a5654szf>, alternatively, there will be paper consent forms available to be completed on site.

May I thank you in advance for your co-operation with the testing procedure, which will help us to limit the spread of the virus and keep the community safe.

### **Remote learning**

Until we re-open, your child should continue to follow their remote learning timetable. I am incredibly proud of how hard students have worked during lockdown – let's keep it up!

### **Return**

Once we return, our focus will be on supporting the students adjust to life back in school, helping to fill any gaps in their learning while also prioritising team building and social time.

I cannot wait to see City Academy full again, and to supporting your child to enjoy a more normal school experience.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Bailey  
Headteacher