



Tuesday 24th August 2021

Ref: Return to school

Dear Parent and Carers,

We look forward to welcoming students in September and we will continue to work hard to ensure the school is a safe place for all those attending. This is possible as a result of the dedicated hard work of staff and the excellent support we continue to have from students and their families.

Lateral Flow Testing – Monday 6th September

You will be aware that we have been instructed by the Department for Education and the NHS to undertake Lateral Flow Testing for those without coronavirus symptoms (Asymptomatic Testing) before, or on their arrival at school in September.

We believe that alongside the other protective measures that we are taking, these tests will help staff and students remain safe in school. We strongly encourage and advocate participation in onsite testing in conjunction with continued testing at home. The Lateral Flow Tests are quick and easy using a swab of the nose. Students will do this themselves and our trained and supportive staff will oversee the process and provide guidance.

Participation in testing is voluntary and consent must be given by using the form below. Anyone under 16 must have parental consent but those aged 16 and over can give their own consent. Please fill in the consent form by selecting the link here <https://forms.office.com/r/JsJx55pqQa> .

This does mean that students will have a staggered start date for their return in September. Students that have consent for a test will attend school on **Monday 6th September for a Lateral Flow Test. (Testing schedule is overleaf)**. Their second test will be completed in school on Thursday 9th September.

Return to school: all years – Tuesday 7th September

All students will start school **on Tuesday 7th September** at the time indicated in the table below, unless they have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms or are under quarantine. If your child is unable to attend school, please contact us on 0121 729 7100 on Monday 6th September or the morning of Tuesday 7th September

Year group	Arrival time	Site
Year 7	8:35 am	Langley Walk
Year 8	10:00am	Langley Walk
Year 9	10:00am	Langley Walk
Year 10	8:35am	Newhall Street
Year 11	8:35am	Newhall Street

Yours sincerely,

Rekha Shell-Macleod
Head of School

Rebecca Bakewell
Head of School

Testing Schedule for Students 1st Lateral Flow Test - Monday 6th September 2021

Students will need to arrive to school at their allotted times. Testing will take approximately 30 minutes.

Langley Walk – Cregoe Street Student Entrance

Year 7

9:00 – 10:30 am

Year 8

11:00 – 12:30am

Year 9

1:00 – 2:30pm

Newhall Street – Student Entrance

Year 10

9am -10C1

9.15am-10C2

9.30am-10O1

10.45am-10O2

11.00am-10R1

11.15am-10R1

11.30am-10E1

11.45am-10E2

Year 11

1pm- 11C1

1.15pm-11C2

1.30pm-11O1

1.45pm-11O2

2pm-11R1

2.15pm-11R2

2.30pm-11E1

2.45pm-11E2

All second tests will take place during Form time on Thursday 9th September 2021

Home Testing Kits will be distributed again through the school community so that twice weekly home testing can take place after the end of the first week of term.

FAQs:

What happens if my son/daughter tests positive on Monday 6th September?

If your child tests positive, we will notify you. Your child will need to self-isolate in line with national guidance and book a PCR test to confirm if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, your child should continue to self-isolate.

What if my son/daughter is confirmed to be suffering from Covid-19 before Monday 6th September?

If your child is confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, please notify the school and ensure that they complete their 10 day period of self-isolation.

What happens if my son/daughter tests positive on Thursday 9th September?

If your child tests positive, we will notify you. Your child will need to self-isolate in line with national guidance and book a PCR test to confirm if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, your child should continue to self-isolate.

Can I have additional self-tests to complete at home after Thursday 9th September?

All students will be issued with home testing kits to enable them to test themselves twice a week.

How do I know which tutor group my son/daughter is in?

Your child will be in the same tutor group as last year however they will have moved up a year group. For example, if they were in 9C1 they will now be in 10C1.