

Dear Parents and Carers

### Re: Start of Term arrangements – September 2021

I hope you are all well and have had a restful summer break.

As we move closer to the start of the new academic year, I just wanted to update you on the start of term arrangements.

Our priority, as always, is to continue to deliver high quality education to all our students. I am very proud of the way the school community has worked together to keep each other over the last year and I know that this will continue in the new school year.

Following the move to Stage 4 of the roadmap in July, the DfE have updated their operational guidance to schools, which can be found [here](#). In light of this new guidance, we will be making changes to some of our operating procedures and relaxing some of the measures put in place last year in order to make the return to school to be as 'normal' as possible (given current circumstances). This will include, for example, no longer having year groups bubbles or zoned areas of the school for specific years. We will also return to the 'normal' timings of the school day (8.25am to 2.50pm) and there will no longer be staggered starts or finishes. However, whilst some measures are relaxed, others will stay in place, and we will remain prepared to step measures up or down in future depending on local circumstances. An information booklet for parents and carers, outlining our revised operating procedures in more detail, will be sent out before the start of the new term.

### Return to school schedule

A reminder that we now have a staggered start to the new school term in order to incorporate LFD testing of students. This is as follows:

Date	In school for face to face teaching	Covid testing
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> September	n/a	Years 7,11,12 & 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will return home after testing</li><li>• See attached booklet for timings</li></ul>
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7, 11, 12 & 13 start school  Year 7: 8.25 start Year 12: 9.00am start (external students) 10.00am start (internal students) Year 11: 1 to 1 mentoring meeting with tutor (individual appointment times) Year 13: 1 to 1 mentoring meeting with tutor (individual appointment times)	Years 8, 9 & 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will return home after testing</li><li>• See attached booklet for timings</li></ul>
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> September	All year groups in school: 8.25am start  All year groups: Periods 1/2 - tutor time Period 3 onwards – normal	

	timetable	
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> September	All year groups: normal timetable	Years 7, 11, 12 & 13 (second test whilst in school)
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> September	All year groups: normal timetable	Years 8, 9 & 10 (second test whilst in school)

### LFD Covid testing

All secondary school students are required to undertake 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term. Following on from my letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> August regarding this, we have produced a booklet outlining further details about this testing programme, including a reminder of timings. This booklet is included with this letter.

Lateral Flow Tests are voluntary but we strongly urge that students participate in the programme of regular rapid testing. Students without consent are still permitted to attend school. However, the more students engage with it, the more effective our system of controls can be.

A reminder that to consent to testing, please complete the form using the links below. Please do so by **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** at the latest. We do need to know if you do not consent as well so please still complete the form.

YEAR 7: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BURU5IRIhPRU5HRU5TQUJISjZXNVBGMzhJSS4u>

YEAR 8: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUMEM4UVNCWkdQUUZZN09FSk9PSDVXV0hNVi4u>

YEAR 9: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUOVMwUVNBWBTQR0UwOUcyTIJHMTYxQUIwWC4u>

YEAR 10: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUQjhOR0lwS1ZXREFSUUFIUjZLRDZEOUdRMS4u>

YEAR 11: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUOEJNNk1VRzBUUjLUDIOOUkxTUVdVIRUVC4u>

YEAR 12: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUNlc1SIVHNzhSUzIEWTJUuzRHUEpXOFhUMi4u>

YEAR 13: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FqwLD5I-3E6GjRHbRevYXLVthxMNau1NkNrjiCsJD-BUQ00xT1Q4ODFIVjRPTUVKRk5ZWk8wVFU2RS4u>

Please be aware that for students aged 16 and over, consent (or not) needs to be provided by the student themselves rather than their parents, but we would encourage you to have a conversation with your daughter. A copy of the privacy notice and a FAQ document in relation to Data Protection for your information are included with this letter.

I would like to offer my thanks in advance for your support and cooperation with testing and our revised operating procedures. The pandemic is not over and as always, please be reassured that we shall remain vigilant and respond accordingly to any changes.

Your faithfully

R. V. Booth

Headteacher