

Our ref: CMA/RST

February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Update on plans for return to school, week commencing March 8th

We hope that you and your family are well as we approach the phased end to the national lockdown.

Following government announcements this week, we write to outline arrangements for the return to school for all students. We have taken account of the latest guidance from government in order to ensure that we are taking care to help support the most successful return for your child, whatever year group they are in.

Wellbeing and progress

We are really looking forward to seeing all of our students return to school – they have been much missed! Upon their return, our focus will be to help re-settle them both socially and academically.

Tutors and the wider staff team will be checking that your child is successfully re-adjusting to the school routine and to being part of their year group bubble. Subject teachers will be using information about work completion during lockdown and student responses to in-class learning to help them understand what progress has been made this term and the appropriate next steps in learning for individuals and classes.

Your strong support for your child during the lockdown period has been much appreciated. We will aim to update you on their engagement levels on the return to school over the coming weeks. We hope that you can continue your positive input, too, so that we can help all students make a successful return to their educational journey.

Lateral Flow Testing for students

In line with government requirements, we will be testing students three times in a space of about 10 days. The tests are self-administered by students and supervised by staff; if students have additional needs, we can support the testing. Tests will only be conducted where there is consent from home. If you have still not consented but wish to do so, please click on this link by the end of today, Friday 26th February: [Consent Form](#).

Students are allowed to return to lessons in school on their start date indicated below following a first negative test. Their year group test date is also indicated below. We are also showing you the intended test dates for Tests 2 and 3. These may have to flex but will be when students are in school so we can

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Learner Engagement
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Multi Academy Trust



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manage that within the school day. **Note:** In order to get students back into school as soon as possible, we are using Thursday and Friday next week – 4th and 5th March, to test Y10, 11 and Y13.

On test days, students will have a 30 minute slot in which to come in; these will follow early next week. They should then go home again. Students who come on the Moxon’s bus: we are arranging a specific schedule with them and will contact you with your time slots and the transport arrangements.

Students must not come in groups and hang around waiting for friends. They must come in, line up at the hall door opposite the art block keeping social distance and wearing their masks. We expect the same high standards of behaviour as usual.

Day	Test	Year Group	First Day Back in School
Thurs 4th March	Test 1	Y11 & Y13	
Fri 5th March	Test 1	Y10 & Y13	
Mon 8th March	Test 1	Y9	Y10, Y11 & Y13
	Test 2	Y11 & Y13	
Tues 9th March	Test 1	Y8	Y9
	Test 2	Y10 & Y13	
Wed 10th March	Test 1	Y7 & Y12	Y8
Thurs 11th March	Test 2	Y9	Y7 & Y12
	Test 3	Y11 & Y13	
Fri 12th March	Test 2	Y8	
	Test 3	Y10 & Y13	
Mon 15th March	Test 2	Y7 & Y12	
Tues 16th March	Test 3	Y9 & Y8	
Wed 17th March	Test 3	Catch ups	
Thurs 18th March	Test 3	Y7 & Y12	

Where consent is not given, those students are able to return on the date that their year group returns to lessons.

As ever, please remember that no student should be sent to school if they are experiencing any possible Covid symptoms or if a household member has recently tested positive for Covid. School should be contacted in these circumstances so that we are aware of the situation and can offer guidance.

Wearing of face masks

You will be aware that the government has put in place the requirement for face masks to be worn in lessons by secondary school students, as well as in other busy areas. It has also been made clear by the scientists that the masks must be worn properly to be effective. This is important for the safety of staff and other students. Please ensure that your child has a clean face mask available each day in support of this requirement. **Note:** Those children who have an exemption from wearing face masks will, of course, not be expected to meet this requirement. We are reprinting exemption cards for them for their first day in school.



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Uniform

School uniform rules will apply as normal from students' first full day in school. On the test day, they can come in their own appropriate clothes. Please ensure everything is located and still fits for the first day. If you are struggling, please contact your child's year leader.

When we loan uniform items for the day, these are always disinfected, washed if appropriate and quarantined before anything is reused to ensure it is Covid safe.

Please can we remind you that hoodies are not allowed to be worn anywhere on the school site. We will be keeping windows open as much as possible, so please remember students can wear a **plain black V necked knitted jumper (not in sweatshirt material) or a school V necked jumper** under their blazers – but NOT instead of their blazers. We also encourage students to wear a plain neutral coloured T shirt under their shirt on colder days. If it is cold, students should wear a coat for when they are outside.

Exams update

At this time, we are working through the latest guidance on the awarding of grades for examination year students this summer. What is clear is that the work students have completed during the course so far, including during lockdown and including assessments completed earlier in the course, are permitted to inform the data we will provide to exam boards.

We will continue to support these students in their studies and to assess their work in class too – this will indicate areas of good progress that we can use as evidence, as well as highlight key areas that need consolidating and will support them in their future studies or employment route.

We will publish our assessment timetables for Year 10 to Year 13 very shortly so students know the deadlines they are working to. Years 11 and 13 can expect a first assessment of their lockdown learning **before** the Easter holidays. Other year groups will also have a mix of formal and routine assessments so we can ensure we know where they are and accelerate their progress.

Timings and arrangements for the school day

As a reminder, here are the timings for the day and points of entry information:

Students should be in their form rooms by 8.35 am so need to be through the school gate by 8.30 am (you might need to practise earlier get ups this coming week). Please look out for Mr Grenham's top tips for the return to school which will be going out on social media from next week.

Entrances and exits

- Students walking from Throapham/Laughton side will be able to enter and leave by the Throapham Gate.
- Students coming by bus or being dropped off in a car, should use the coach park gate, and should leave through this gate if being picked up/catching a bus.
- Students coming by bike or scooter* should come up the main drive and put their bike or scooter in the bike shed, we recommend a lock.
- All other students:
- Y7, 10, 11: Enter up the main drive.

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- Y8, 9, sixth form: Enter up the service road.

At the end of the day: students not leaving by Throapham, coach park or by bike/scooter: Students in new build or art block should leave down the main drive. Students in all other blocks should leave down the service road.

Waiting areas

Students arriving before 8.30 am, should go to their year group area:

- Y7 front of Hatfield
- Y8 Memorial garden
- Y9 Basketball court
- Y10 Tennis court/behind old gym
- Y11 front of new build.

All of these arrangements are important for minimising cross infections.

Further information

If you require any additional information, please get in touch via your child's form tutor.

In the meantime, thank you once again for your support – it really is appreciated and does make a difference to your child's education.

With kind regards



Ms RJ Staples
Principal

* As you will be aware, electric scooters are not legal on public roads or pavements. If you still allow your son or daughter to use one for school, you need to be aware that from 8th March, these MUST be stored in the bike shed and locked. These must not be used on the school site. Students should push them when they enter the gates. We cannot accept any responsibility for any damage or theft. We discourage these electric scooters being used for school.

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