

## Unlocking Potential | Creating Opportunity

December 2021

### Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to share the Academy's plans on our return in January 2022. As you will be aware the Government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the Covid-19 virus and guidance is subject to change as the situation develops.

On return in January all students who have parental consent will need to provide a negative lateral flow test (LFT) either from the evening before or on the morning of return. Please can we ask that your child brings this into school in the seethrough waste bag, so that this can be recorded. Any student with consent who arrives on the day without a LFT, will be processed through the testing centre that morning. Unfortunately, students doing this will need to sit and wait for their results and this will impact their learning.

In addition to the above, we will need to welcome students back to the Academy in staggered start times below on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to accommodate for testing:

## Staggered Times for 4th January 2022 - Only

Date	Year Group	Start Time	Entrance
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	11	08:30	Main Gate
	7	08:30	Merryfields Gate
	8	09:50	D Block Gate
	10	09:50	Main Gate
	9	11:00	Main Gate

#### Face covering guidance

Even with lateral flow testing in place there is still a requirement for additional in-school measures as this method of testing has proved not to be 100% effective. Due to this, and in line with the governmental guidance, we will be asking students and staff (except those who are exempt) to continue to wear face coverings on site in **all areas** including classrooms. This excludes times when eating or drinking at break and lunch.

Face coverings must be used appropriately, covering the nose and mouth. They can be plain or patterned but must not display any offensive images or designs. Scarves and bandanas will not be appropriate as they do not fit securely around the side of the face. If a student attends school without a face covering or exemption, parents/carer will be contacted to bring a suitable covering in.



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If you would like your child to be exempt from this requirement then please can you write a note in their contact book. Students with this note will be offered a badge or card to identify their exemption. Please can we ask parents to ensure that students have their own reusable face covering as we have seen an increase in the use of our disposal ones which has a detrimental effect on the environment.

Again, please can we remind parents that it remains essential that if your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 they **do not attend school** and get a test without delay. Further NHS information on this can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Please report any absence as normal.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you all a healthy Christmas and New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr Prankerd **Headteacher** 

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