

5 March 2021

Dear Parents

We look forward to welcoming back students next week. I am resending the information that Mrs Barnes sent earlier this week and I have highlighted two bullet points. Firstly, those without consent forms can collect one on the day of testing; a member of leadership will be around in the top car park to distribute these. Secondly, we are still awaiting the delivery of home test kits and therefore we may have to distribute them at a later date.

First Test

1. **No need to wear school uniform.** Make sure you have your mask.
2. Get dropped off at the top car park and walk around to the back of the Oaks Theatre (there will be signs and people to direct you). Do not enter via The Place reception.
3. Put your mask on when you are invited into the Oaks Theatre.
4. **If you require a consent form, a member of the leadership team will be on hand to provide blanks for completion.**
5. When you get into the Oaks Theatre, you will see registration desks.
6. Here we will check that your parent/carer has given consent for you to be tested.
7. If consent has been given, you'll get a card with your name on and a bar code.
8. Go to the testing desk number you are sent to. These are on the sides and middle row of the Oaks Theatre. There are 18 testing desks with lovely testers, some of whom you will recognise.
9. Give the tester your card.
10. Blow your nose and put the tissue in the bin bag on the side of the table.
11. Take the testing swab from the tester (it is like a giant cotton bud) and wipe it round each nostril for 10 seconds each side.
12. This tickles a bit! You do not have to swab your throat.
13. Put the swab in the test tube being held by the tester.
14. That is it. Follow the one-way system to exit the Oaks Theatre.
15. **On your way out take a home test kit which you'll need to use after you've had your next two tests in school.**
16. We will only contact you if your test result is positive.

When you return to school on Thursday, we shall let you know when your second and third tests are scheduled.

Return to School

Students will be returning in Week 1 and therefore students should bring equipment for the relevant lessons.

Please remember your fob for school meals.

School Calendar

Please note there is a Year 9 parents' evening on Thursday 18 March 2pm-6.30pm, this will be taking place as scheduled via SchoolCloud. I apologise, therefore, that there will be an early finish for the other year groups on this date. I appreciate an early finish is not ideal so soon after the resumption of education, but we cannot move the parents' evening as it informs parents of the GCSE options process which needs to take place now to allow for planning for next year. The early finish allows the creation of additional appointment slots without extending the school day beyond a reasonable length.

The INSET day that was postponed on 12 February 2021 has been rescheduled for 14 June 2021 to enable us to check all the data that will be submitted to the exam boards for this year's GCSE and Sixth Form qualifications.

There will be a Year 11 Headteacher's reception on 11 June 2021 and a Head of Sixth form reception on 10 June 2021. More details to follow, as will details of the Prom events.

Home testing kits

These should only be used after the student has completed three tests in school.

The instructions in the booklet detail the test should be carried out in this fashion:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZhSPnnXyPo>

Alternatively it can be carried out as we have done in the onsite testing and that method can be found here:

<https://learninghub.nhs.uk/self-swab>

Best wishes



David Collins
Headteacher