

Arrangements for March Re-opening of Balshaw's

Stage 1

Test and Go – Tuesday 9th March

- Prior to returning to school, all schools will undertake Lateral Flow Tests of all students to check for cases of Covid that may be asymptomatic.
- This is not a day in school, instead you will use our *Test and Go* facility during the time slot you have been allocated below.
- Students are expected to **wear their school uniform** when they come for their test.
- There will be no live learning for Year 9 from Monday 8th. However, students should still follow their timetable as work will be set by their teachers for classes to complete independently. Also students should take the opportunity to complete any work that is still outstanding before their return to school.
- Parents may drive onto the site, but must remain in their car. Please use the one-way queueing system, coming in via the side drives and leaving via the central drive.
- If students walk to school, they must not do so in a group or wait anywhere, but travel directly to school.
- Students are to walk around the outside of the school using the entrance to the right of the school building and make their way towards the fire doors of the Gym at the back of school where they will wait to be guided into the Test and Go centre.
- Once they have been tested, they will exit the Gym and go back to their car/walk directly home.
- Results will be communicated later that day.

Test and Go Appointment Slots*:

Time Slot	Tutor Group
8.45 – 9.30	Clayton 5
9.30 – 10.15	Clayton 6
10.20 – 11.05	Cuerden 5
11.05 – 11.50	Cuerden 6
12.00 – 12.45	Farington 5
12.45 – 1.30	Farington 6
1.40 – 2.25	Worden 5
2.25 – 3.10	Worden 6

**Note that students who have been tested as part of our keyworker and vulnerable provision do not need to do anything different as they are already part of our testing programme.*

(Continued...)

Stage 2

Return to School – Wednesday 10th March 8.50am

- Students need to arrive at school **between 8.50 and 8.55am** in uniform with mask, hand sanitiser and full uniform at Gate B as they have been doing throughout the Autumn Term

Additional Information

- Keyworker and Vulnerable Provision
The provision for keyworker and vulnerable students will continue on Monday as usual. Keyworker and Vulnerable students are already tested on a regular basis in school.
- Further tests
Students will be provided with two further Lateral Flow tests in school during the following days.
- Home test kits
After this point each student will be issued with two Lateral Flow Test Kits per week (providing they have given consent and undertaken the previous three tests in school).
- Learning during the first week
Learning during the first week back will check knowledge and understanding of the work set during the most recent lockdown.
- What if my child or someone in my house tests positive for Covid?
Isolation period of 10 days will have to be undertaken.
- What if my child is a close contact of a positive case?
Isolation period of 10 days will have to be undertaken.

And finally

It is good news that infection rates are falling, but numbers in this area remain high and I want to reassure you all that the health and wellbeing of all our students and staff are at the heart of each decision we take. This is an anxious time for everyone (not least our Year 11 who still await news of how they will be assessed for their GCSEs).

All of our students remain in year group bubbles with staggered starts and finishes. The Restaurant catering service will be operating as usual so your child will be able to purchase a hot meal every day that they are in school as they have been throughout school opening.

We are all really looking forward to seeing our students back in school where they should be. Home learning has been a hard slog for everyone – many of the staff are parents and we share the stress of managing your children as well as your workload! At times just getting through the day can be hard.

We will work hard to ensure that normality resumes as far as possible for your child when they return.

Once more, I would like to thank all of you who have sent in such positive messages to the staff at school. Your kind words, thoughts and prayers have been a real boost to everyone's morale. Let us fervently hope that this is the beginning of a one-way journey out of lockdown.

Kind regards

Mr Steven Haycocks

HEADTEACHER

BALSHAW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. (Psalm 119, vs 105)