



1st March 2021

Dear parent/ carer

We are very pleased to start welcoming back our pupils to school from the official 8th March date as announced by the prime minister. We have missed their presence in school and look forward to seeing and hearing them!

I write to inform you of the arrangements regarding the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) COVID-19 testing programme, the staggered return and our current on-site education provision.

Critical worker children and vulnerable children will continue to attend school as they have been during lockdown during the phased return from Monday 8th March. For those who have already given testing consent, we will integrate them into our testing programme with their year group.

For pupils not in our key worker and vulnerable provision who have consent for testing, our intention is that they will be given an appointment slot to come into school to conduct their test and then go immediately home. This will minimise contact with others and keep everyone as safe as possible. Once they have a negative test result, they will then return to normal school the following day. Pupils in our key worker and vulnerable provision will return to this provision after their test.

Any pupils who do not have consent for a test will return to school with the rest of their year group on the days given in the table at the end of this letter.

The initial testing will be on the following days:

Date	Year group
Thursday 4 th March	10
Friday 5 th March	11
Tuesday 9 th March	9
Wednesday 10 th March	8
Thursday 11 th March	7

In order to schedule the individual appointments, we would be grateful if you could complete the online form <https://tinyurl.com/5ybs79t> indicating whether you will or will not be consenting to your child having a test. The deadline for completing the online form is Tuesday 2nd March at 10am. We shall then use this information to assign individual appointment times and inform you of these as soon as possible.

Pupils will need to come to school for their appointment. If parents are bringing their child into school then please drop your child off at the bus stop bay so that pupils can make their way to the main entrance and go through to the testing site in the main hall. We have no parking available on the school site. Please be mindful of local residents if parking in the nearby streets. Pupils may come for testing in non-uniform and must wear a face covering unless they are exempt.



The test should take no longer than ten minutes. Pupils taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The tests are quick and easy using a swab of your throat and then nose. The principle behind the initial three tests in school is to give pupils the skills and confidence to continue testing at home.

This video <https://tinyurl.com/5ye33fb4> explains how to do a COVID-19 self-swab (LFD test), it gives clear instruction on how to swab correctly and I would urge all parents to watch this with your child before attending your first test at school. We also have a leaflet on our school website that shows pupils how to self-swab.

On arrival, your child will be greeted and directed to the testing centre by school staff. We will complete the registration process so that you will receive their result via text and email from NHS Track and Trace. However, I can reassure parents that you will be informed by phone call from school if your child has a positive result. We will then advise and support you with any action required.

Return to school dates following testing:

Once we have completed the testing programme for each year group on their allocated day, we will then be able to welcome back each year group for face-to-face sessions following their normal timetable. The allocated start days are as follows. If you have not given consent for your child to be tested, they should attend school on these days:

Date	Year group
Monday 8 th March	10&11
Wednesday 10 th March	9
Thursday 11 th March	8
Friday 12 th March	7

Normal school day timings and lessons will run on the dates above, with the school gates opening at 8.30am. All pupils should attend on these days in full school uniform with all equipment including PE kit if they are timetabled to do it on that day.

School buses will run from Monday 8th March and will have the pick-up times as follows:

565 - Bowerham Bus

7.50am - Galgate Crossroads
8.00am Hala Square
8.03am Fox & Goose
8.10am Bowerham Hotel
8.12am Greaves Hotel
8.16am Barton Road

S24 - Marsh Bus

8.05am Lancaster Meeting House
8.10am Marsh Lane

School Mini Bus -

8.10am Morecambe Sainsbury's
8.20am Scale Hall Spar
8.30am Ryelands Park Car Park

Please remind your child that if they use the buses, they must wear a face covering whilst on the bus, unless they are exempt.

If you have any questions having read the information contained in this letter, please do get in touch so that we can answer them and support yourselves and your children getting back to school safely.

Yours sincerely,



Victoria O' Farrell
Vice Principal