



10th December 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

### Testing schedule - January 2022

As you are aware, the DfE have asked secondary schools to test all students (using lateral flow tests) on their return to school in January 2022, as we did in September and March this year when schools reopened. Testing onsite on return is an effective way to reduce the risk of transmission in schools and support the continuation of face-to-face education, by identifying positive cases and isolating those that are the most contagious as soon as is practical. Due to the concern about the new Omicron variant, we have been asked to be cautious while there is still uncertainty about what might happen over the Christmas period.

On return in January, everyone in Years 7-13 will be offered **one test onsite** and should return to face-to-face education if the result is negative. This includes students who have been vaccinated. Due to the fact that we need to limit interaction between students while they wait for their first test result and to manage the whole process of testing 900 students, we will have to **operate a staggered start** as follows. The DfE and Local Authority have advised schools to operate a staggered start.

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 6th form | <b>Return to school Wednesday 5th January</b><br><b>Testing Wednesday 5th</b> during registration; lessons start Period 1 as normal (including travel to GSHS)  |
| Year 11  | <b>Return to school Wednesday 5th January</b><br><b>Testing Wednesday 5th</b> during Period 1; lessons start Period 2 (all students will have science in an adaptation of the timetable for those who will ordinarily have missed this Period 1)<br><b>Check the schedule below for arrival time between 8.30-9.40am by tutor group</b> |
| Year 10  | <b>Return to school Thursday 6th January</b> - normal school day timings<br>Students will need to <b>attend school for their on-site test on Wednesday 5th</b> , by tutor group.<br><b>Check the schedule below for arrival time between 10.00-10.50am by tutor group</b>   |
| Year 9   | <b>Return to school Thursday 6th January</b> - normal school day timings<br>Students will need to <b>attend school for their on-site test on Wednesday 5th</b> , by tutor group.<br><b>Check the schedule below for arrival time between 11.15am-12.25pm by tutor group</b>   |
| Year 8   | <b>Return to school Thursday 6th January</b> - normal school day timings<br>Students will need to <b>attend school for their on-site test on Wednesday 5th</b> , by tutor group.<br><b>Check the schedule below for arrival time between 12.45-2.15pm by tutor group</b>  |
| Year 7   | <b>Return to school Thursday 6th January</b> - normal school day timings<br>Students will need to <b>attend school for their on-site test on Wednesday 5th</b> , by tutor group.<br><b>Check the schedule below for arrival time between 2.25-3.25pm by tutor group</b>   |

If you provided us with consent for onsite lateral flow testing in September 2021 and we have a record of this, you do not need to give consent again. However, if your child started with us after September 2021 mid-term (and therefore has not tested with us before) or you have changed your decision around consent, then you will need to let us know. If your child is in Year 7, it would help us to ensure we have written consent by also completing and returning this form. Please use the attached consent form in all instances; these can be accepted electronically.

Students will be provided with work to complete on Wednesday 5th if they are in Years 7-10, but there will be no live lessons, as staff will be involved in the testing process throughout the day.

### Testing timetable - Wednesday 5th January

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Time students should arrive at school for their test - normal entrance via cafe doors<br>Students are being tested in tutor groups - find your tutor group below.<br>Try not to arrive more than 10 mins beforehand as you will be asked to wait outside. |  |
| 7.45  | Year 12/13 students travelling to GSHS for lessons |
| 8-8.30  | Y12/13 - by tutor groups                           |
| 8.30  | 11RT   |
| 8.45  | 11LMO/KJ   |
| 9.00  | 11PKE  |
| 9.10  | 11BJO  |
| 9.20  | 11MCH  |
| 9.30  | 11AT   |
| 9.40  | 11JDU  |
| 10.00   | 10DP   |
| 10.10   | 10HM   |
| 10.20   | 10HR   |
| 10.30   | 10LHA  |
| 10.40   | 10SN   |
| 10.50   | 10LH/AJ  |
| 11.15   | 9SAT   |
| 11.25   | 9BT  |
| 11.35   | 9AM  |
| 11.45   | 9AHO   |
| 11.55   | 9LHO   |
| 12.05   | 9MR  |
| 12.15   | 9LMK   |
| 12.25   | 9RD  |

|       |      |
|-------|------|
| 12.45 | 8KL  |
| 12.55 | 8MH  |
| 1.05  | 8LL  |
| 1.45  | 8RH  |
| 1.55  | 8DH  |
| 2.05  | 8AHA |
| 2.15  | 8GS  |
| 2.25  | 7KB  |
| 2.35  | 7LCH |
| 2.45  | 7ES  |
| 2.55  | 7JFM |
| 3.05  | 7HB  |
| 3.15  | 7AC  |
| 3.25  | 7MA  |

Thank you for your patience. This is the third time schools have been asked to do this during the pandemic; it is getting a little wearing now, but I am sure you can see the value in following this guidance to protect everyone at the start of the new term.

Yours faithfully



Kelly Holbrook  
Headteacher