

All Saints Catholic College

A Voluntary Academy

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Head of School: Gus Diamond
Executive Headteacher: John Cornally

February 2021

Dear Parents,

Having received all information from the government regarding the return of secondary schools from the 8th March, I would now like to detail how we will move forward with that process.

Before I do that there are some areas that do require explanation:

1. The guidance is clear that we can allow children to return to full time schooling once we have tested the pupils using a lateral flow device test (LFD). The pupils will complete 3 LFD tests in school over the first few weeks on return to full time education. After that home testing kits will be provided. More information about the home testing will be available on the school website next week. The testing is voluntary but we would ask **ALL** parents to complete the consent form either to indicate they do allow their child to have the LFD test or to say they do not provide consent. **NO CHILD** will be tested without this consent. If you do not consent to your child being tested we would, of course, welcome them back into school. **If your child has tested positive within 90 days of the proposed test date they cannot be tested.**

The consent form (and accompanying information) can be completed electronically and is available on the College website. We have also provided a copy of the consent form with this letter. If you cannot fill in the form electronically please bring the paper copy when your child arrives for their tests.

Please complete the electronic Consent Form by Wednesday 3rd March at the latest.

If your child has been attending school and you have already provided consent you do not need to complete the consent form again.

If your child has had a Covid vaccine the advice, currently, is that they should have an LFT test.

2. If a child tests positive from a Lateral Flow Test then they will need to self-isolate for 10 days as per Government guidance. They must not get a PCR test from an 'official' testing station.
3. It is now compulsory in all secondary schools for pupils to wear masks not only for transition around the building but also now in all lessons where children cannot be more than 2metres apart. Please make sure that your child arrives every day with a face mask and a spare. **If your child cannot wear a mask, please make sure that they wear their exempt badge on their blazer lapel.**
4. Your child should not attend school, if they or anyone in their household has Covid 19 symptoms. These remain a high fever, a new cough, a loss of sense of smell or taste. If your child has any of these symptoms they should access a test and only return to school when they have a negative result, or after 10 days from the onset of symptoms preceding a positive result.
5. If after their return to school, as per practice before this period of lockdown, a child tests positive and has attended school they will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. It is still the case that we will also have to send home close contacts from their class/bubble. They will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days, from the onset of the positive cases symptoms. Work will be set for these children via Show My Homework.

The table below details the date we will test your child's year group, and the date of their return to school:

Year Group	Test Date	Return to School Date
11	Friday 5 th March 21 (am)*	Monday 8 th March 21
8	Monday 8 th March 21 (am)	Tuesday 9 th March 21
10	Monday 8 th March 21 (pm)	Tuesday 9 th March 21
7	Tuesday 9 th March 21 (am)	Wednesday 10 th March 21
9	Tuesday 9 th March 21 (pm)	Wednesday 10 th March 21

* **Test times: 8.30 to 11.00 will be am, 12.00 -2.30 will be pm**

A text will come to you to let you know what time we would ask you child to come to school to be tested. The process will take around 45 minutes to 1 hour, therefore we ask that you do stick to your times. Parents will **not** be allowed to accompany their child into the testing facility.

Pupils will come to school to have their test, and then return home. If they are negative they will return to school the following day. Pupils do not have to be in uniform for their test.

As I am sure you agree, now that children are back in school it is time to return to our exceptionally high standards. As the children return I would ask that you ensure:

- **They arrive in school in full uniform.** The weather has changed but the wearing of a jumper is compulsory until Easter. Hoodies cannot be worn under blazers. **Jewellery is not allowed.** Skirts should be of acceptable length. Makeup/hair colour should be natural - that includes no false tan. Shoes must be worn. Please check your child, where possible, before they leave for school.
- **Children will no longer need to wear their coats or hoodies inside lessons.** The weather is now much more clement and the cold snaps are over. The heating will remain on where necessary and windows will remain open for ventilation but children will be asked to remove all coats and hoodies.
- **Your child has the correct equipment** (a pen, pencil and ruler at least) and arrive with their books, homework and journal in an appropriate rucksack.
- The canteen will be open and serving food at break and lunch. FSM vouchers will continue during week commencing 8th March but this will be the last week for such vouchers.

As the family at All Saints, we have worked so hard, together, to raise and improve our standards as a learning community. I know that you all want those standards to be maintained and we must now do that so that learning and progress can continue and our children receive the best education.

I hope the contents of this letter are clear and cover the majority of your concerns and queries. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch regarding any concerns, firstly via your child's Head of Year or via Miss Scott or myself.

Yours sincerely

A Diamond
Headteacher