

24th August 2021

Dear Year 12 Parents/Carers and Students

We hope that you are all well.

Following recent announcements by the Government, the school have been notified of the arrangements we have to put in place for a safe return to school in September.

Given the current uncertainties around the COVID-19 situation, the Government wants to help schools to be prepared for all scenarios when term starts after the summer holidays. This means that secondary schools have to set up Asymptomatic Test Sites (ATS) on site from the start of the autumn term.

All students in the school will be offered **two** Lateral Flow tests on the school site, spaced 3-4 days apart, at the start of the autumn term. This will help to identify cases of COVID-19 and stop transmission to support the return to school – particularly as most pupils will not be testing over the summer and will need to re-establish the habit of regular twice weekly testing. Pupils will be able to return to face-to-face teaching as long as their first test is negative.

In order to receive a test, we need your consent.

Please complete this online consent form as a matter of urgency if you have not done so already:

<https://forms.gle/GhxMcJj8GStaJYdC7>

The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose. Members of staff will oversee the swab process.

We will only notify you if the test is positive, if not you can assume the result was negative.

We strongly recommend that all parents/students give their consent for tests to take place as this is an important strategy in helping to keep the school and wider community safe.

We have been running testing successfully at school since January 2021 with both staff and pupils. It is a simple, self-administered process and should not be the cause of anxiety for pupils or parents.

Transition tasks

Between now and Monday 6th September, you should complete the transition tasks for your Sixth Form subjects. The tasks can be found here:

<https://www.heathland.hounslow.sch.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form+Transition+Tasks&pid=385>

Arrangements for the start of term

Wednesday 1st September 2021

This is a Staff Training Day, however, in the afternoon, you will be required to attend school at an allocated time for a Lateral Flow Test.

Testing arrangements:

Students are invited into school alphabetically according to the timetable below. It is extremely important that they are on time as we have to take a lot of tests in a limited time.

Students should come to the Main hall in order to be registered

Arrival Time	Family name begins with
1.30pm	A - D
2.00pm	E - H
2.30pm	I - L
3.00pm	M - R
3.30pm	S - Z

Thursday 2nd September 2021

This is the Year 12 Induction Day. Please read the details you were given at your interview for your start time and more details on what to bring, prepare for and expect.

COVID – 19 contact tracing and isolation

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12 July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July.

One of the key changes is that schools will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

Self-isolating and taking a test



If your child has symptoms, **she/he must self-isolate straight away** and get a PCR test (a test that is sent to the lab) on GOV.UK as soon as possible.

If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, your child should self-isolate – and you should inform the school. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons).

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Students aged under 18 years 6 months who have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

Best wishes

Mr H.S. Pattar
Headmaster

Mr S.S. Gill
Senior Deputy Head (Pupil Support)

Mr J.M. Rose
Deputy Head (Resources & Community)

Mrs M. Sandu
Deputy Head (Curriculum)

Senior Management Team