

5th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Since my last letter to you on 2nd March, we have been working hard to complete the final planning for the return of all students next week. I am confident that the plans we now have in place will allow all necessary testing to be carried out efficiently and safely, thus facilitating the quick return to classroom learning and giving the opportunity for every student to have targeted advice and guidance on wellbeing and staying healthy during what is still a very challenging time for us all.

Return to School

As you are aware there will be a staggered return in the week commencing 8th March. Once students return on their allocated day they will be expected to attend for the rest of the week. The current key worker, vulnerable student provisions will remain in place until the full year group return.

	Return & First Test	Students to be tested	Students not giving testing consent
Monday 8 th March at 8.20am	Year 11	Enter school via bottom gate and Hibret Hall entrance and line up in tennis courts	Enter school via top gate and line up at usual space near Abbey Bite
Monday 8 th March at 11.30am	Year 13	Enter school via courtyard gate and line up in courtyard.	Enter school via main entrance and go straight to form room
Tuesday 9 th March at 8.20am	Year 9	Enter school via bottom gate and Hibret Hall entrance and line up in tennis courts	Enter school via top gate line up in main playground
Tuesday 9 th March at 11.30am	Year 12	Enter school via courtyard gate and line up in courtyard.	Enter school via main entrance and go straight to form room
Wednesday 10 th March at 8.20am	Year 7	Enter school via bottom gate and Hibret Hall entrance and line up in tennis courts	Enter school via courtyard entrance into Main hall.
Thursday 11 th March at 8.20am	Year 8	Enter school via bottom gate and Hibret Hall entrance and line up in tennis courts	Enter school via courtyard and line up in courtyard
Friday 12 th March at 8.20am	Year 10	Enter school via bottom gate and Hibret Hall entrance and line up in tennis courts	Enter school via bottom gate and go to Sports hall via Hibret entrance

Lateral Flow Testing

Each student with parental consent will have a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) administered on their first day returning to school, as laid out in my previous letter. I can now confirm when students will receive their second and third LFT in compliance with government plans. Each LFT taken by students will need to be registered with NHS Track and Trace, details on how to do this will be sent out to you in due course. However, I want to reassure you that the school will take immediate appropriate action if there are any positive results and this is not dependent on the Track and Trace system.

Year group	Date of second LFT	Date of third LFT
7	Monday 15 th March	Thursday 18 th March
8	Monday 15 th March	Thursday 18 th March
9	Friday 12 th March	Wednesday 17 th March
10	Tuesday 16 th March	Friday 19 th March
11	Thursday 11 th March	Tuesday 16 th March
12	Friday 12 th March	Wednesday 17 th March
13	Thursday 11 th March	Monday 15 th March

Break and Lunch

For the duration of the first week of the return to school schedule (week commencing 8th March), the canteen will be unable to operate as normal. This means that no food or drinks will be served at break times and lunch provision will be limited to grab bags containing a sandwich, snack and drink. Normal service will resume the following week but in the meantime free school meals are unaffected.

Equipment

All our staff are very much looking forward to the return of students into the school community and we are keen that students are prepared for their return, to try and reduce any unnecessary anxieties. With this in mind, below is a quick reminder of the equipment that all students need to bring with them from their first day back:

- Black or blue pen (and a spare)
- Green and purple pens
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil (and a spare)
- Face mask in plain colour (and a spare)
- Reading book (or revision book for Year 10 and 11)
- iPad (charged) if you have one
- Planner if you have one

Face Coverings

As I set out in my last letter to you, we are asking that face coverings be worn in communal areas and on school buses. Students are also required to wear face coverings in classrooms, unless exempt. We are aware that this may cause further anxiety for some students and I want to be clear that no student who is exempt from wearing a face covering will be treated any differently as long as they are wearing their green badge. If your child is exempt and requires a green badge, they need to see their Year Manager.

Buses

From 8th March school buses will be running as normal. It goes without saying that I expect students' conduct on buses to be exemplary. As we are all aware, many young people are anxious about the return to school, as are many members of the public, and therefore the government regulations on face coverings need to be followed at all times.

We look forward to welcoming back all our students next week.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'J. Thornton'.

J Thornton
Acting Principal