



12 August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Lateral Flow Testing prior to Autumn Term 2021**

I hope you and your children are having a well-deserved summer rest and enjoying the relaxation of Covid 19 restrictions. We have had the pleasure of two fabulous exam result days for our GCSE and A level students and are now looking at the new academic year ahead. A huge thanks goes to all parents who have supported a child in Year 11 and 13 over the last academic year. We are hopeful that the year ahead will look more 'normal' with exams running normally in summer 2022.

**Lateral Flow Tests in School**

The Department for Education has requested that all schools conduct two lateral flow tests onsite for all students (with consent) prior to the start of the academic year.

If your child is new to the school or you have previously declined consent, We will send a new consent form via the forms section of ParentMail. If you have previously consented, there is no need to complete a new form.

Year 12 and Year 13 students can give their own consent on the day of the first lateral flow test. Due to the school site being hired for YMCA summer camps and our own Summer School running in another part of the building, we have decided to run our lateral flow tests in a marquee which will be based in the school carpark. Testing will start from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August to ensure that students can return to school as soon as possible in the new school year. The table below shows the days different year groups will be tested:

Testing Day	Year Groups
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> August – Test 1	Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> August – Test 1	Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August – Test 2	Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September – Test 2	Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Mop up
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Mop up

Your appointment time for both days will be sent shortly

Unfortunately due to our staggered start it will not be possible to ensure that sibling times are at the same time. If you are unable to attend your appointment please can you notify school.

We have currently been advised by the Department for Education that students and staff (with consent) will still be expected to conduct lateral flow tests twice a week at home throughout September. New kits will be issued to students after they have completed the two lateral flow tests on site.

## September Staggered Start

In September we are going to stagger the return of all students to ensure for testing and also to provide an opportunity for our Year 7 students to complete transition activities they missed in July due to Covid. The table below shows the return date for the different year groups in school:

Year Group	Return Date
7	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
8	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
9	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
10	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
11	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
Post 16 (Years 12 &13)	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September

Students will enter via the main front gates and will enter the school through the Cloister. Staff will be on duty to guide students to their correct year group line up area.

Yours faithfully



Mrs S. Stapleton  
Principal