



Liverpool College

3 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to Mrs Cassidy's letter last week, I am pleased to be able to write to you today with the final plans for the return to school of all our pupils from the week commencing Monday 8th March, as well as further guidance on the use of face masks in school and the updated Risk Assessment.

The key points outlined in last week's letter regarding testing and routines are repeated below for your information.

Testing of pupils

The Government has asked that we test all consenting pupils three times in school within the first two weeks. Consenting pupils need to have a negative test before entry into the classroom for the first time. In order for this process to work we need to have a staggered arrival of pupils over two days, on the 8th and 9th March. **We strongly recommend that all pupils are tested to help ensure a safe transition back to school and to help prevent the transmission of the virus.** If you have not filled in the latest consent form and wish to give consent we have devised an online method, which we hope will be much easier. Please click on the below link and submit your consent no later than **Thursday 4th March 2021.**

<https://forms.gle/uePY9G6ZrxVgYvP4A>.

NB: Your child will not be tested if you do not give consent.

Once tested for the first time, pupils will be tested twice more over the proceeding 8 days. This will cause minimal disruption and will be carried out over the course of a normal school day. On 18th March pupils will be issued with home testing kits to test themselves at home, once before 22nd March and then twice weekly after this date. Pupils will be shown how to carry out the procedure and there are also clear instructions in the packs.

Return to school routines

As testing is being organised by Year House group order, **it is important that pupils arrive at College at the given time listed in the letter you received from Mrs Cassidy on Friday.** If you are unsure about the time your child should arrive, please contact your child's house administrator.

On arrival **all pupils** must make their way to the Sports Hall via the main car park and along the road past the playing fields and Astro. **They must not come through the main site.** On arrival to the Sports Hall, consenting pupils will be tested and asked to wait 30 minutes for a test result. **If you do not wish your son/daughter to be tested or the pupil themselves do not wish to be tested, they must also arrive at the Sports Hall and**

wait with their House Group until they are allowed into class. They will not be tested.

Pupils who are still at home during this staggered return must continue with their remote learning.

Once pupils have returned to school after the first test, they will resume normal Covid school times which are:

Years 7 to 9: 8.25am – 3:15pm (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

8.25am – 4:00pm (Tuesday and Thursday)

Year 10 to 13: 9:30am – 4:15pm (Monday- Friday)

Pupils will be following the January 2021 timetable issued at the start of this term and which they have been following during lockdown. Pupils should already have a copy of this and will receive another paper copy after their first Covid test. There will also be an opportunity at this time for all routines and procedures for their return to school to be explained to them face to face.

Remote learning during the w/c Monday 8th March

During the phased return to school on Monday 8th March and Tuesday 9th March lessons will be Show My Homework task-based lessons or face to face as follows:

- Year 7: Show My Homework task-based lessons on Monday, Covid testing 8.30 to 11am on Tuesday, face to face lessons from 11am Tuesday 9th March onwards
- Year 8: Show My Homework task-based lessons on Monday and period 1 Tuesday, Covid testing 11am to 1pm on Tuesday, face to face lessons from 1pm Tuesday 9th March onwards
- Year 9: Show My Homework task-based lesson on Monday and Tuesday morning, Covid testing 2pm to 4pm on Tuesday, face to face lessons commence 8.30am Wednesday onwards
- Year 10: Show My Homework task-based work for Monday period 1, testing 11am to 1pm on Monday, face to face lessons commence 2pm Monday onwards
- Year 11: Covid testing 8.30am to 11am Monday, face to face lessons commence 11am Monday
- Sixth Form: face to face lessons commence 9.30am Monday, testing available throughout the day for 6F with a dedicated time slot 2pm to 4pm. Pupils with lessons Period 1 Monday are advised to be tested in their local test centres on Sunday ahead of period 1 Monday.

School will remain open as usual for vulnerable and key workers children during the pupils' staggered return. However, to aid us with the smooth organisation of these days we would ask you that any Year 7, 8 or 9 pupils that can work from home do so to aid us with the supervision of testing and the resumption of face to face lessons.

Updated risk assessment

We will be exercising all our existing Covid safe measures; pupils will be expected to remain in their bubbles and follow the Covid safe school rules, which include one-way systems and keeping to their designated break and lunchtime areas. I will remind all pupils of these routines during their time in the Sports Hall, on their first day back. Please also be aware that we will continue to follow Government guidelines in the event of a person testing positive. This will involve close contacts having to isolate for 10 days after the day of last contact with the positive person.

A [copy of our updated risk assessment](#) accompanies this letter.

The use of face masks

The government has announced that from the 8th March 2021, new advice applies to the use of face coverings by staff, pupils and students in schools in England.

“Where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff, pupils and students when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils and students when outdoors on the premises.

*In addition, we **now also recommend that in those settings where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn in classrooms and during activities unless social distancing can be maintained.** This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons.”*

Therefore, in addition to our established routines of the wearing of face masks in the secondary phase in communal areas and corridors we will be expecting pupils in Years 7 to 13 to wear a face mask in classrooms where social distance cannot be maintained. This will be reviewed at Easter.

Pupils who have a medical exemption, a special educational needs exemption or an exemption on mental health grounds (including heightened anxiety) will not be expected to wear a face mask during lesson time. We are already aware of some pupils who are exempt, but if your child should also be exempt, please email your child’s House Administrator with the details. This applies to all pupils in Years 7 to 13.

Please ensure that your child has at **least two facemasks each day**. When not in use facemasks should be placed in a **resealable plastic bag**. Pupils must learn not to touch the outside of their masks and to change it when it becomes damp. Disposable facemasks must be placed in the black bins, which are situated around the campus both outside and in the classrooms. Pupils must wash hands or use hand gel after touching their masks.

Further, we recognise the challenge and potential communication barriers for pupils being taught by a teacher wearing a face mask. The power of a teacher’s facial gestures in engaging with pupils is not to be underestimated. Therefore, we will be advising our teachers to endeavour to maintain social distancing in classrooms so that they are able to remove their face masks when group teaching from the front of the classroom.

Return of College Laptops used in Remote Learning

We were in the fortunate position of being able to loan a large number of families laptops during the lockdown period which we know made a big difference to many of our pupils. We now need to ensure that these laptops are returned to school as they are needed on a daily basis in lessons. If you have a College laptop on loan, please follow these procedures so that the return of the laptop is recorded properly.

- Ensure that the laptop, bag and charger are returned together.
- Ensure that the laptop is clearly labelled with your child's name.
- If your child has set up their own login and password on the laptop please ensure that the original settings are restored.
- Please let us know if there is any known damage to the laptop so that it can be repaired.

- Return the laptop to the main office only - do not hand it in anywhere else such as a form teacher or House Administrator. When the laptop is returned you will be issued with a receipt.

Thank you for your continued support and we very much look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school from Monday 8th March 2021.

Kind regards

Mrs A Haynes
Vice Principal