



Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope you are all well and that family life has taken a step towards normality now that school is fully open to all students. As you will be aware, we have had to deal with two positive cases within the school in the last week and this has led to 70 students having to self-isolate. If your child is having to self-isolate, then please don't hesitate to contact the relevant pastoral team if you need support.

As ever, I hope this letter provides you with a useful summary of what I think you need to be aware of as we navigate this complex year:

### Lateral Flow Testing

We have now finished the in-school Lateral Flow testing for the 90% of students who consented to take part in the programme. Students have now been issued with their home testing kits and they should have completed their first test yesterday.

You should have received an email asking you to register your results from TestRegister.co.uk - if you have not please visit [testregister.co.uk/login](https://testregister.co.uk/login) and enter your email address. You will then be sent a link to login. After you have recorded your child's test results you will be directed to NHS Test and Trace to report the result to them also.

Once we can see that you are carrying out your tests and sharing the information with school we will arrange for more tests kits to be sent home with your child. Moving forward, testing twice a week should be a routine, and ideally become embedded in family life. Reminder emails to carry out tests/log the results will be automatically sent each Sunday and Wednesday evening.

Following this first test, all subsequent tests should be completed twice weekly on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. **The DfE have confirmed that students should continue with home testing throughout the Easter Holidays** as this will help them keep good habits and routines as well as continuing to reduce the risk of transmission to family members or the wider community. All testing kits for your children will be supplied by school.

Please also remember that you and your family are also encouraged to take part in-home testing. [My letter on the 9<sup>th</sup> March](#) set out how households/bubbles can access testing kits.

### INSET Day

You may remember that we postponed an INSET Day that was scheduled to take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> March because we did not think it was appropriate to send students home only seven days after they had returned to school. **This INSET day has now been rescheduled for Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June** and so school will be closed to all students on this day.

### Upcoming Parents' Evenings

- **Year 8 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April for Boot and Clough houses, and on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April for Lawrence and Nightingale houses**

- **Year 7 Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June for Boot and Clough houses and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June for Lawrence and Nightingale houses**

Appointments for these evenings will be made using our online booking system and the appointments will be online. We will write to you with more details about how this will work nearer to the time. The Year 7 Parents' Evening is slightly later than initially planned, this is because we have had to make adjustments to the school calendar to accommodate some of the expectations associated with the process for awarding grades to Year 11 and Year 13.

#### **Year 10 and 12 Assessment Weeks**

This is advanced notice and certainly not anything to worry about at the moment. As part of our reorganisation of the school calendar, we have also had to make some changes to the timings of these assessment weeks. The Year 12 summative assessments will take place during week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> June and the Year 10 summative assessments will take place during the fortnight beginning the 14<sup>th</sup> June. Later in the year students in these year groups will be told more details of these assessments and what they need to do to prepare for them. At this stage, it is likely that these assessments will take place in the classroom but we will keep this under review as and when restrictions lift across the country.

#### **Year 11 and Year 13 Awarding Grades**

I will be writing separately today to all students in Year 11 and Year 13 students to update them on this process. A copy of this letter to students has also been sent to parents, as ever I would urge you to go through this letter with your son or daughter to ensure that they have an understanding of how the process will be working.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew George



Head Teacher