



24 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Return to Learning in the Classroom

I hope my letter finds you and your family well and you enjoyed a good half term together.

We are delighted that very soon we will be able to welcome back your son/daughter and all our students. Schools are vital for long-term health and wellbeing, as well as helping students to achieve qualifications and allowing them to develop as a whole person.

Following the Prime Minister's statement on Monday 22 February, the government, through the Department for Education (DfE), have now released initial **School coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance**: comprehensive and new details about how students will return to school from 8 March.

We continue to aim to keep you fully informed and up to date but not to issue unnecessary and contradictory information. Your patience and understanding in this unprecedented year with ongoing changes are very much appreciated. This is a brief update and more details will follow next week.

The key messages are that we will be open for all our students from Monday 8 March. Students and teachers will be expected to wear face coverings in the classroom where possible. The confirmation of the arrangements for the replacement of public examinations is expected imminently and we will inform you of those arrangements as soon as possible. Finally, the details about the Lateral Flow Testing for students will be confirmed once we know the number of students for whom consent has been given.

We want your son/daughter to have the very best educational experience possible, in an environment that will be as close to normal and as familiar as possible, but one in which safety for us all is of the utmost importance.

Our students' behaviour, conduct, attendance and attitude have been fantastic throughout this period of remote education and on-site provision, despite the many challenges it has brought, and they are once again to be commended; it is clear they are trying their very best and we are really proud of them.

We are incredibly proud of everything that has been achieved by our whole school community: parents and carers, students and staff.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Pearsall
HEADTEACHER