

Dear Parent/Carer

Update on the reopening of college from Monday 8 March

Further to my previous correspondence, I write to update you on the process of reopening the college from Monday 8 March, following the government announcement on Monday 22 February and the receipt of updated operational guidance.

To allow for the safe return of all students and staff the following control measures will be in place:

- All previous control systems will remain in place. A reminder of these can be found [here](#).
- Mass asymptomatic voluntary testing of students will commence from Monday 8 March.
- Students will be offered 3 rapid lateral flow tests before their return to face to face teaching.
- Home testing for students will commence from Wednesday 7 March. Upon completing 3 in-college tests, students will move to a home testing model and will be supplied with 2 tests a week to use at home. Details on how to report the results of these tests will follow closer to the time.
- Face coverings in lessons will be an expectation until Easter as social distancing cannot be maintained in a classroom. This is not expected of those exempt from wearing face coverings.

Due to the size of the college population, there are considerable logistical demands in the administration of the testing process. The college has constructed a temporary testing site which will have the capacity to administer 600 rapid tests per day. Students will be tested according to the following schedule.

	Students on site for testing	Teaching
Monday 8 March	Year 13 Test 1	Remote Learning
Tuesday 9 March	Year 12 Test 1	Remote Learning
Wednesday 10 March		Remote Learning
Thursday 11 March	Year 13 Test 2	Remote Learning
Friday 12 March	Year 12 Test 2	Remote Learning
Monday 15 March	Year 13 Test 3	Remote Learning
Tuesday 16 March	Year 12 Test 3	Remote Learning
Wednesday 17 March		All students return to college

We seek your support in helping to make the testing process as effective as possible. There are a number of steps that need to be taken before students arrive for their first test.

- Watch the TGAT Asymptomatic Testing video by clicking this [link](#).

- Consenting to tests – testing is voluntary however students are required to provide consent. Read the document linked [here](#) for further details on the consent required. Students will confirm their consent when they attend the site for testing.
- Use of data – the government is clear on what data needs to be shared following each test. Full details can be found [here](#).
- To balance the staffing of the testing site and the attendance of students for testing, remote learning from Monday 8 March to Tuesday 16 March will not include live lessons with teachers. Independent tasks will be set and checked by teachers throughout this period. This also means that remote Tutorials and EPQ session will also be suspended during this period.

In the coming days students will receive a letter with an individual appointment for their first test. This letter will also outline the steps that students will need to take to prepare for this first test. Please read these instructions carefully so that the testing process runs as smoothly as possible. I will also send a link to a short video of an assembly for all students to watch. This includes key information about the importance of testing, why we would encourage students to participate in the testing programme and how the testing process will be administered.

I appreciate your continued support and I look forward to welcoming all students back to learning in college very soon.

Yours faithfully



David Holtham
Executive Principal Post 16