



24 February 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to you regarding Monday's announcement from Boris Johnson regarding the re-opening of schools from March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Firstly, can I say how excited we all are by the prospect of re-opening of moving forwards and getting back to being a 'normal' school once again. There has been such a great momentum and improvement in so many aspects of the school and we can't wait to build on these even further.

The Senior Leadership Team are working alongside Trust colleagues and other key MECE staff to ensure that our plans are robust and Risk Assessments are updated and reflect new guidance. It is our intention to share these with you in the middle part of next week – and we thank you for your patience in the meantime. However, within this plan please be assured that it is my intention to fully re-open as soon as possible although this may have to take place across a number of days so that we can test all students on return and ensure that the community is as safe as possible.

At this stage I wanted to share some of the key changes that we will be incorporating into our provision:

1. Students are now **all** encouraged to undertake three Lateral Flow Tests on site within the first two weeks of restarting to ensure they are not carrying and potentially transmitting COVID-19 asymptotically. These tests have been successfully taken by our on-site staff and PopUp school community over the last 8 weeks; they are non-invasive and students conduct them independently having been given instructions on how to complete it accurately.

Please complete the testing consent form (link below) by 9AM on Monday, 1st March.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WwlpOb3F7ECiSBqhIHVh9FoHjEnkMmlNq\\_w7RtNlxWx5UN09YWjq2MUJYNDdWVE05V1IPUkpHVFYySi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WwlpOb3F7ECiSBqhIHVh9FoHjEnkMmlNq_w7RtNlxWx5UN09YWjq2MUJYNDdWVE05V1IPUkpHVFYySi4u)

2. Students and staff will now be **required to wear a face covering** at all times whilst inside the building (including lessons and corridors and the canteen) and whilst in other outdoor communal spaces (e.g. the Quad) they will be expected to observe a greater degree of social distancing. For some lessons (e.g. PE) face coverings will not be required. A small number of students and staff may be exempt for medical purposes.

My staff will also be contacting some students and families over the next few days to provide reassurance and support where necessary.

In the meantime, our excellent remote learning provision of live lessons will continue whilst we plan for our full reopening in two weeks' time.

Yours

Andy Hartley  
Headteacher