

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are all delighted about students returning to school soon! I am writing to give you more detail about how we will manage that.

### COVID-19 Testing at School

Before students can return to school, government expectations are that they should be tested for COVID-19 and have received a negative result. The tests are quick and easy to perform, using a swab of the nose and throat, and results are generated in about 30 minutes. While testing remains voluntary, we encourage everybody to take part. We cannot perform COVID-19 tests on your child without your consent. If you have not already done so, you can find the form – and more information at [www.limehurst.org.uk/dfd](http://www.limehurst.org.uk/dfd).

Once your child has started attending school again, they will be tested twice more in school. These tests should ideally be 3-5 days apart. We will **not** notify you of when the second and third tests are happening, but you will of course receive the result.

After that, all children will be issued with home-testing kits. We will give you more information about these nearer the time.

### Return Dates

Testing all of our students is a huge undertaking. It will mean converting our sports hall into a testing centre and will require a considerable number of staff. We also recognise the need to get students back into school as soon as possible, so we have set the following timetable.

<p><b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b></p>	<p><b>All year 11 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).</b>  <b>Some year 10 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).</b>          Remote learning continues as normal for all year groups.          Key Worker/Vulnerable children provision continues on site.</p>
<p><b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b></p>	<p><b>Year 11 students return to full-time school (10.00am start).</b>  <b>All year 7 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).</b>  <b>Some year 10 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).</b>          Remote learning continues for years 7, 8, 9 &amp; 10.          Key Worker/Vulnerable children provision continues on site.</p>

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Year 7 students return to full-time school (8.45am start).</b>  <b>Year 10 students return to full-time school (9.00am start).</b>  All year 8 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).  Some year 9 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).  Remote learning continues for years 8 &amp; 9.  <b>No</b> on-site Key Worker/Vulnerable children provision.</p>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Year 8 students return to full-time school (9.00am start).</b>  Some year 9 students invited in for their first test (timed appointment).  Remote learning continues for year 9.  <b>No</b> on-site Key Worker/Vulnerable children provision.</p>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Year 9 students return to school (9.00am start).</b>  All students in school.</p>

As stated above, we will issue timed appointments for your child's first test. This will be done by email. Students will be required to use the main car park entrance, where staff will be on hand to assist. In preparation for the test itself, you and your child may want to look at the *How to do your LFD test* document at [www.limehurst.org.uk/lfcd](http://www.limehurst.org.uk/lfcd). Students do not need to be in school uniform when coming for this first test.

In the event that any test gives a positive result, your child **and the rest of the household** will need to isolate for 10 days in accordance with [national guidance](#).

### Safety in school

**All** of the same safety measures that were in place before schools were closed will be reintroduced. However, one particular safety aspect has now been strengthened by the government: face coverings.

Previously, face coverings (these must cover the nose **and** mouth) needed to be worn in all communal areas. On our return, at least until the Easter break, face coverings **must** also be worn in lessons.

### Uniform and PE

Because the Sports Hall will be being used as a testing centre for the remainder of this term, there can be no indoor PE lessons. Therefore, all students should wear normal school uniform each day. If it looks likely that outdoor PE can take place, you will be notified of this in advance. Students should only come to school in their PE kit if you receive such notification.

### Device Return

If your child has a laptop or other device on loan from the school, they should bring that with them on their first day at school, where we will have plans in place for collection. They should **not** bring them to their test appointment.

## Summary

1. Look at the table to see when your child's first test is going to be.
2. Also check in the table when their first day back at school will be.
3. If you haven't already done so, give consent for testing at [www.limehurst.org.uk/lfid](http://www.limehurst.org.uk/lfid)
4. Go through the *How to do your LFD test document* with your child, on the same webpage.
5. Check your emails daily, to look out for your child's timed appointment for their first test.

Yours sincerely

J Mellor

Headteacher