



16th December 2021

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to confirm our current plans for our students' safe return to school in the new year.

You may have heard in the news that schools are being advised to mass test all students on their return in January. In order to comply with this, we will need to stagger students' testing and return days as we did at the start of the Autumn Term. We do apologise for any inconvenience this causes; but our priority is ensuring that students come back to school as safely as possible.

It is our current intention that students will come into school to be tested according to the schedule below, then return home for the remainder of that day. They will then return to school the following day, provided the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test is 'negative'.

Testing and return-to-school schedule by year group

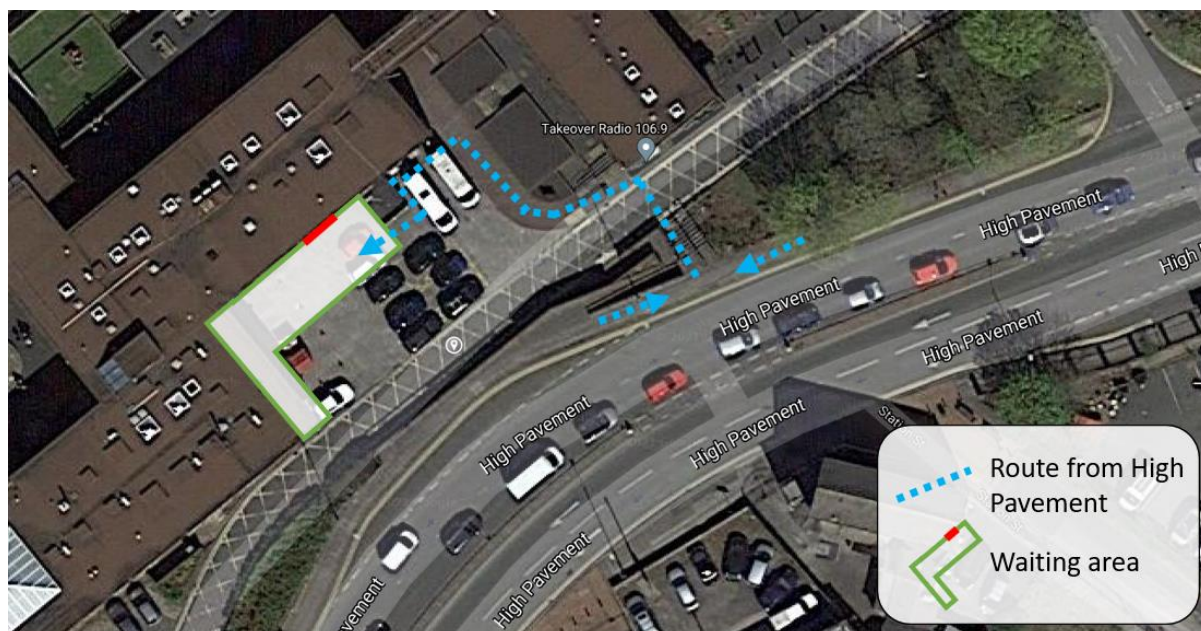
YEAR GROUP	TEST DATE <i>(see below for time)</i>	RETURN TO SCHOOL
7	Wednesday 5 th January	Thursday 6 th January
8	Thursday 6 th January	Friday 7 th January
9	Thursday 6 th January	Friday 7 th January
10	Wednesday 5 th January	Thursday 6 th January
11	Tuesday 4 th January	Wednesday 5 th January
Post-16	Tuesday 4 th January	Wednesday 5 th January

Testing appointment times by tutor group

TEST TIME	TUE 4/1/22	WED 5/1/22	THU 6/1/22
09:00 - 09:30		7-JFR	8-ARH
09:30 - 10:00		7-ALN	8-GWS
10:00 - 10:30	11-LSY	7-JBT	8-SBN
10:30 - 11:00	11-BJS	7-AHD	8-ASO
11:00 - 11:30	11-ABN	7-LLS	8-EBA
11:30 - 12:00		7-SLH	8-CGG
12:00 - 12:30	11-ABK		
12:30 - 13:00	11-SPL	10-MDD	9-BML
13:00 - 13:30		10-RHH	9-JWE
13:30 - 14:00	Post-16	10-ALK	9-MRZ
14:00 - 14:30	Post-16	10-LJG	9-LHS
14:30 - 15:00		10-RSH	9-SNE
15:00 - 15:30		10-SRS	9-SHO
15:30 - 16:00			9-CMG



Testing will take place in SB4, with access to that classroom via the doors at the rear of the school site, off high pavement, next to Takeover Radio entrance – please see the map below. A section of that car park will be coned off for students/parents to wait in, with an undercover space should it be raining. Students should not come into the main school building or reception on their testing day.



On arrival, students will register their attendance and collect an LFD kit containing 7 test kits. They will then carry out a self-test, under supervision, in groups of up to 12. The self-test will take between 3-5 minutes and a member of staff will be on-hand to support. Students will then be allowed to leave with their device and the remainder of their kit and asked to check their device after 30 minutes...

If the test is negative – student returns to school the next day.

If the test is positive – the result should be reported on the NHS App and to the school via our absence line; and the student should self-isolate and book a PCR test. Close contacts of anyone testing positive should conduct daily LFD tests but do not need to self-isolate. *(This advice is in-line with current government guidance and subject to change.)*

If the test is void – student should discard this device and complete a second self-test at home using the kit provided.

Students are not required to wear uniform on their test day. Parents/carers are welcome to accompany their children if they wish. If you have previously provided consent for your child to be tested in school, you do not need to do this again. It is also possible to do this on the day if you accompany them. Children aged 16 and over can provide their own consent. Testing remains an



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optional process but highly recommended to help to protect our school and community and keep the school open.

There are, of course, several factors that could change over the break with the current Covid situation having many unknowns. We have begun planning for the various scenarios and will send updated information if these arrangements cannot take place.

Wishing you a happy and safe Christmas!

Rich Fegan
Vice Principal