

Heworth Grange School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

2nd September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Covid related arrangements for return to school

As explained in my letter on 23rd July we now have updated guidance and plans for covid testing as we return to school next week. Part of this guidance states that when students return in September, they must be offered two in school Lateral Flow Tests 3-5 days apart. The tests we will be offering in school are the same tests which are available from pharmacies and GP practices, if you would prefer your child to test at home you can find out where to collect home test kits here <u>https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/</u>.

We will need a new consent form completed by parents and carers who would like their child to have a test in school. We will not test any student who has not been given consent on the new form below, so if you do not want your child to be tested in school, you do not need to take any further action.

If you would like your child to be tested in school please ensure you complete the new online form below by Midnight on Sunday 5th September. You will need to complete the form for each of your children in school.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=C_MlKbmmH0m4veL4xy3J7fD4GyvldAlGqRLU85WgF7RUMUVDTF LSVzIYMlhDR1NHV01COVYzM09PSi4u

Please be aware that schools must upload test barcodes in bulk, so if your child takes a test in school you will not receive confirmation of the result immediately. We will contact parents or carers directly if their child tests positive. Your child may receive a card and test barcode for future reference, you do not need to do anything with this. We will register all in school tests at the end of each day.

If you have completed the testing consent form, a second test will be offered to your child whilst they are in school 3-5 days after the first test.

Return to school arrangements reminder

Monday 6th September: No students – staff training day

Tuesday 7th September: New year 7 students

All new year 7 students in school from 8.35 am in full school uniform – this will be normal school day times and students will be with their advisors all day

- Students should arrive at the main gates, no later than 8.35am and they will be directed into school by staff on duty
- They will have a mini transition day to welcome them into school
- COVID testing will take place for year 7 students if their parents/carers have completed the online consent form.
- Maths, English and Science baseline tests will take place





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Tuesday 7th September Year groups 8 – 11

Students should only come in to school if they wish to have a COVID test on site and their parent/carer has completed the online consent form above. Students should arrive at the main gates and may wait at the area in front of the main entrance but should not come into school. Please arrive between the times stated below:

- Year 8 : 10.30 11.45pm
- Year 9: 11.45 12.45pm
- Year 10: 12.45 1.45pm
- Year 11: 1.45 2.45pm
- Students should only come in only at times designated for on-site testing and leave after testing
- Students DO NOT need to wear school uniform for this
- Any student in years 8 11 not wishing to have a COVID test should not come into school on Tuesday 7th September, as we are only open for year 7 students and testing.

From - Wednesday 8th September:

- <u>All</u> Year groups in school from 8.35am in full school uniform normal school day times
- All Year groups will have an extended advisory period 1 and 2 to prepare everything for the new academic year
- Normal lessons from period 2

Updated Covid guidance

- There will be no expectation of any bubbles in schools and so we will have a single break for all students at 11.05 11.20am, split lunches will remain in place and all school activities can take place in mixed year groups.
- Schools will no longer be responsible for Test and Trace
- Face coverings will not be required in classrooms and communal areas of the school; this is extended to include all visitors into school. Students may continue to wear a mask if they wish to do so.
- All hygiene regulations will remain in place
- Ventilation requirements will remain in place, but a suitable temperature will always be maintained in the classroom and so coats and other jackets will not be needed or allowed.
- Students who have had a close contact with a positive COVID case do not automatically need to self-isolate. Test and Trace will inform you and 'advise' you to take a PCR test.
- Other guidance remains the same If students have **COVID symptoms or a positive lateral Flow Test result they should self-isolate**. A negative PCR test when taken within 2 days of a positive Lateral Flow Test (LFT) will override the LFT and students can return to school.
- Remote education will remain in place for any students self-isolating

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break and we look forward to welcoming students back next week.

Yours sincerely

Ms A Denholm Headteacher

