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Headteacher: Mrs N J Waters, B.A. M.Ed

18<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Coronavirus Update 48: Return to School September 2021

It is national policy that all of our students, except those whose parents have withheld consent, are tested twice on their return in September. The tests offered will be Lateral Flow Testes, similar to the ones currently being used for testing at home.

The scheme requires the students tested to have recorded a negative result before they begin to attend normally; the second test may be taken once they are back in school.

In order to minimise the disruption to normal lessons, we have decided to begin our first round of tests on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September. You will see the details in the table below.

This will not affect the effective first day of term for any students, except for those in Year 9. Their return to normal lessons will be delayed by one day.

I realise that some families are likely to be away on holiday on a day when their son/daughter is due for a test. Please do not worry about this. We will fit them in once you are back in Droitwich.

Nearer to the event each student will be given a time when they should attend for their test. Unlike the testing programme earlier in the year, this one in September will not be run at the Leisure Centre. Instead we shall be making use of our Sports Hall and Gym.

Parents of the new Year 8 will be invited to give consent once they have access to the high school information system. I am told that lawyers are still debating whether the consent given previously on behalf of our older students will remain valid in September. As soon as schools are told the outcome of this, we will be in touch to ask you, if necessary, to let us know your current wishes.

## Programme for Testing and Return to School September 2021

	First Test	Return to School	Second Test
Year 8	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 9	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 10	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 11	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 12	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 13	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> September

Yours sincerely,

N. J. Wares

**Natalie Waters**