

27th August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Returning to School – September 2021

I hope that you and your family have been able to enjoy a good summer break. With the new school year almost upon us I am writing with details of the arrangements for next week. Most of these will be familiar to you, but I should draw attention to the two changes which appear in red on the schedule below.

As a preliminary to the new school year students, at the high school and elsewhere in England, will be offered two lateral flow tests for COVID-19. Unlike the testing programme which we ran in March, we shall not have the use of the Leisure Centre and all the tests will be conducted in the Sports Hall here at the school. The testing programme is as follows:

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

It is being organised around tutor groups and you will find at the foot of this letter the times when your son or daughter's tutor group should attend. If you are bringing them by car please drop them off in the bus bay or at the back of the Leisure Centre.

Your consent for these tests is of course required. If your child was offered a test last March, you can use the Arbor Parent App to alter the decision which you made then. If your position is as it was in March, you need take no further action. Parents and Carers of our new Year 8 have recently received an explanation of how to register their decisions as to the granting or withholding of consent.

Beyond these initial tests lie the realities of the new school year. We aim to strike a compromise between a more normal secondary education and a respect for the risks which have become so familiar. This compromise will mean that normal movement around the school is possible and full use can be made of our specialist facilities. On the other hand we shall continue to:

- strongly recommend the routine of twice weekly testing at home
- maintain our programme of additional cleaning
- support any student considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable or whose home includes someone else in that situation. (If you have a particular concern please contact our attendance officer Lisa Jacobs at JacobsLJ@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk)
- have a flexible approach to the use of face coverings; whilst they are no longer a requirement, we shall support any student who chooses to wear one.

As we have all learned, these precautions do not guarantee that none of our students – or staff – will become infected. Schools no longer have any responsibility for contact track and trace but were there to be

an outbreak there is a range of measures that we, in collaboration with Public Health England, have in waiting.

Our Outbreak Management Plan and Risk Assessment are on the School Website. You will see that secondary school students will no longer have to self-isolate if they have had contact with an infected person. They will be allowed to attend school as normal provided they take PCR test and receive a negative result.

I am also attaching the current school uniform policy. It is unchanged since I last circulated a copy of it, but I trust it will be a reminder of our expectations.

Let us all hope for a term when we can focus upon the education of those returning to school next week.

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Waters

Rota for Lateral Flow Testing September 2021

Year 8	Thursday 2nd Sept	Year 9	Tuesday 7th Sept	Year 10	Friday 3rd Sept	Year 11	Friday 3rd Sept and Monday 6th Sept	Year 12	Thursday 2nd Sept	Year 13	Monday 6th Sept
8IED	9:00 AM	9FJL	9:00 AM	10TFS	9:00 AM	11JEW	9:00 AM	12JDC	9:00 AM	13HAH	9:00 AM
8MYT	9:30 AM	9KLS	9:30 AM	10SAR	9:30 AM	11SB	9:30 AM	12ANP	10:00 AM	13GCH	10:00 AM
8HJM	10:00 AM	9DGB	10:00 AM	10CMR	10:00 AM	11JJH	10:00 AM	12AT1	11:30 AM	13AH	11:30 AM
8SJG	10:00 AM	9DS	10:30 AM	10JB	10:30 AM	11RHB	10:30 AM	12ECD	1:30 PM	13AT	1:30 PM
8KAR	10:30 AM	9CEM	11:30 AM	10CT	11:30 AM	11ADM	11:30 AM	12JHS	2:00 PM	13LSL	2:00 PM
8LNH	11:30 AM	9SSD	12:00 PM	10LMJ/KVL	12:00 PM	11DCC	12:00 PM	12JT	2:30 PM	13MCT	2:30 PM
8SDS	12:00 PM	9HSF	12:30 PM	10ES	12:30 PM	11AJH	12:30 PM				
8RDW	12:30 PM	9TCT	1:30 PM	10DAM	1:30 PM	11RLS	1:30 PM				
8HLR	12:30 PM	9CMJ	2:00 PM	10SAG	2:00 PM	11LAH	2:00 PM				
8KAS	1:30 PM	9TAR	2:30 PM	10MDD	2:30 PM	11HAB	2:30 PM				
8LR	2:00 PM										
8FS	2:30 PM										