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Academy Trust

Headteacher Kam Grewal-Joy Deputy Headteachers Steve Bacon Tamsin Woodward

8th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Return to School Testing Arrangements

I hope this letter finds you well.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education are now requiring schools to open test centres on our return from the Christmas break and mass test students to help control the spread of COVID-19.

Return to school testing will take place on **Tuesday 4th January** – the scheduled start of term. On this day, the school will only be open to students for testing and they do not need to wear school uniform. Students will be asked to arrive at their designated time slot and then to return home. Schools have only been asked to test students once on their return but parents are encouraged to continue with twice weekly testing at home. School will reopen to all students on Wednesday 5th January as normal in full uniform for Year 7- Year 11.

There will not be live lessons on the Tuesday but students will be asked to consolidate their learning from the autumn term using their knowledge organisers on ClassCharts. Work to be competed at home on this day will be discussed with students before the end of term.

The timings of student testing are shown below, and will take place in one hour slots per year group. Students are asked to arrive at the start time of their year group block if they are to have a COVID-19 test.

| Year | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 &13 |
|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|--------|
| Time | 9am | 10am | 11am | 12pm | 1pm | 2pm |

Parental Consent

Only students who have parental consent (or have given self-consent if aged 16 or over) can be tested in the testing centre. We will use existing records to determine those that have consented.

According to these records we currently **DO** have consent for your child to be tested for COVID-19. If you would no longer like your child to be tested in January, please complete the online consent form by **Thursday 16th December** by using this link - https://mhsch.uk/covidtestingconsent

Our best hopes are that we will see less disruption due to COVID-19 in the new year. Thank you for your ongoing support with all safety measures in school, especially with the home testing as it massively helps to control the spread of the virus in our community.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K Grewal-Joy Headteacher

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