



5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### Opening of School for All Students

In the Essential Information for Parents booklet, sent to you at the same time as this letter, you will find the information to help you ensure that your child is well prepared for their return to school. Please note the staggered return of students and check that you know the specific arrangements for your child.

The asymptomatic testing and staggered return has implications for the delivery of remote learning and face to face teaching. These are outlined below.

- Students who have an appointment for their first asymptomatic test during a morning session will have no 'live' sessions to attend during periods 1 – 4 but will be expected to attend their 'live' session period 5. Teachers will set work on Firefly for the lessons where 'live' sessions have been suspended
- Students who have an appointment for their first asymptomatic test during an afternoon session will have 'live' sessions to attend as normal periods 1 and 2 but will have no 'live' sessions during periods 3 – 5. Teachers will set work on Firefly for the lessons where 'live' sessions have been suspended
- For Year 7 all 'live' sessions will be suspended on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Teachers will set work on Firefly instead.
- To allow students to adjust to their return to school, the Home Learning Timetable will be suspended for the first two weeks (except for Sixth Form, who have non-contact time to complete home learning). This means that your child will not be set any home learning tasks if they are in Years 7 – 11. Home Learning expectations will resume for all students week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### Asymptomatic Testing of Students On-Site

Information regarding the asymptomatic testing programme, including the time of your child's test, has already been shared with you. Additional information is contained in the Essential Information for Parents booklet and all relevant information can be found on the school website, available [here](#). Please be aware that:

- Unfortunately, due to the volume of tests that we are required to offer and the safety precautions in place on site, we are unable to re-arrange any appointment times.
- Please encourage your child to watch the [COVID Test - How to Swab](#) video clip so that they are fully prepared for their test.
- Although your child has been given a specific time, there will be some queuing and some of this may be outside. Please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather.

- Please remind your child to report to the Sports Hall for their test. They will only be allowed on site for the duration of their test.
- Students should bring a pen – and remember to bring a face mask.
- When travelling to and from school students must adhere to the National Lockdown restrictions.

## Final Grades for Year 11, 12 and 13

As you know, at Prince Henry's we are committed to ensuring that every young person receives the grades that they deserve this summer. Our aim is to have a simple, but robust, system for allocating students' grades.

The DfE have made it clear in the [published guidance](#) that:

- Students should only be assessed on what they have been taught.
- Unlike Summer 2020, teachers should reflect [and have evidence for] the standard at which the student is performing now, **not** their potential.
- Although evidence can come from across the duration of a course, more recent evidence is likely to be more representative of student performance.

We are still waiting for Exam Boards to publish their guidance, training programme and new assessment materials, however it is possible at this stage to provide the following overview of the process we intend to use.

Between Easter and May half term students will complete a range of internal assessments in each subject, which will help to inform the final grade for that subject. Some of these assessments will take place in classrooms, others will take place in the Sports Hall with more formal structures in place to oversee them.

It is expected that in KS4 each subject will use three pieces of evidence to inform the final grade whereas at KS5 each subject will use five pieces of evidence. This may be more or less in some subjects if appropriate. Most of the evidence used will come from work completed next half term. If a subject has a NEA (coursework that counts towards the final grade), it is likely that this will be used, with a similar weighting to that applied in the normal exam series, as one of the pieces of evidence. Students will be given advance notice of when these assessments will take place and therefore have plenty of time to prepare.

**Please note that no new individual assessments (GCSE or A Level) that count as evidence will take place between now and the Easter holiday.**

The specific information for each subject will vary, and this detail will be finalised over the coming weeks, once we have received the full guidance and assessment materials from the Exam Boards. Parents and students will be told in advance exactly which assessments will be used as evidence to inform the final grade.

We will be able to confirm the assessments to be used for evidence in each subject, and when those assessments will take place, before the Easter break. We will also provide information about our internal Quality Assurance Process and the Appeals Process.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support as we navigate these new challenges.

Yours faithfully



**Ms Janet Sheriff**  
Executive Headteacher