



26th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Opening of School for All Students

As I am sure you are aware, the government has announced that schools will re-open to all students *from* Monday 8th March. Staff are really looking forward to welcoming students back on-site as soon as possible, but please note that the opening requirements mean that there will be a staggered return of students from this date (see details below).

In order to ensure that student return is as safe as possible, additional risk mitigation measures have been introduced for secondary schools:

- The temporary (until Easter) requirement for students and staff to wear a face covering in classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- The introduction of voluntary asymptomatic testing for students (alongside the continuation of voluntary asymptomatic testing for staff)

These measures are over and above the risk mitigation measures that were in place before the recent closure, all of which will remain in place. I will send you confirmation of these measures next week. Students will also be reminded of our expectations and the role that they have in reducing the spread of infection.

Asymptomatic Testing of Students On-Site

The government guidance for school re-opening states that all students should be offered three 'lateral flow' asymptomatic tests during the first two weeks of their return and that the first test should be conducted before returning to face to face teaching.

Asymptomatic testing is voluntary. The attached letter entitled 'Asymptomatic Testing' gives additional information about the testing process. In order for your child to take part you will need to give your consent via an online form (which can be accessed through the link in the attached letter). If you do not want your child to participate it would be helpful if you would complete the online form to state this, so that we can demonstrate that we have offered all students a test. **Please complete and submit the online form by 3pm on Wednesday 3rd March.**

We have made arrangements to test over 500 students each day, therefore enabling all students to be back in school by Thursday 11th March at the latest. Remote learning will continue for each year group until they return to face to face teaching. Student return will be as follows:

Date	am/pm	Year Groups To Be Tested	Year Groups Returning To Face-to-Face Teaching	Students in School
Monday 08/03/21	8.30am – 12pm	Year 12* Year 13*	-	Existing cohort of vulnerable students and children of critical workers (VCW cohort)
	1pm – 4pm	Year 10*		
Tuesday 09/03/21	8.30am – 12pm	Year 11* Year 7 - only Naylor and Robinson Forms*	Year 10 Year 12 Year 13	VCW cohort Year 10 Year 12 Year 13
	1pm – 4pm	Year 8*		
Wednesday 10/03/21	8.30am – 12pm	Year 9* Year 7 - only Jennings and Knight Forms*	Year 8 Year 11	VCW cohort Year 8 Year 10 Year 11 Year 12 Year 13
	1pm - 4pm	Year 7 - all other Forms*		
Thursday 11/03/21	From this date second and third tests will be administered whilst students are in school		Year 7 - all Forms Year 9	All students in school
Friday 12/03/21 until Friday 18/03/21	Second and third tests will be administered whilst students are in school		-	All students in school

*Each student will be given a specific time slot. For this first test students will only be on site for the duration of their test and will not be expected to wear their school uniform. Before and after the test they should be at home, accessing remote learning.

Detailed information about the on-site testing arrangements (including specific time slots) will follow next week.

Asymptomatic Testing of Students at Home

From Monday 22nd March, all students who are taking part in the asymptomatic testing programme will be provided with lateral flow device test kits so that they can be tested at home, twice each week. Results must be reported to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed, either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. Students aged 18 and over should self-test and report the result, with assistance if needed. Students aged 12 to 17 should self-test and report with adult supervision (the adult may conduct the test if necessary). Secondary school students aged 11 should be tested by an adult.

Further details and instructions will be shared with parents and students before Monday 22nd March.

Face Coverings in Classrooms

In line with the new operational guidance for schools, students will be required to wear a face covering in classrooms (a re-usable mask that is secured behind the ears) when they return to school. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. Also, the requirement will not apply to

students who are exempt from wearing a face covering (medical evidence will need to be provided). This requirement is a temporary arrangement, and it will be reviewed by the government before the start of the summer term.

Final Grades for Year 11, 12 and 13

Yesterday the government published information about how final grades will be awarded this summer. School leaders have already started to review this information and have begun planning how this will be implemented at Prince Henry's to ensure that every young person receives the grades that they deserve. Students and parents will be informed of arrangements by Friday 5th March.

Remote Learning – Have Your Say

Thank you to the many parents and carers who responded to our remote learning survey. An analysis of responses indicates that the vast majority of you are extremely happy with our remote learning offer.

Key Positives Identified:

- Remote learning, following the normal timetable, provides students with structure and improves their focus on their learning
- Teacher input via the 'live' sessions is impressive
- The range of feedback provided by teachers helps to support learning
- 'Live' sessions motivate students and enable them to feel more connected with their teacher and classmates – resulting in a positive impact on mental health

Key Suggestions for Improvement:

- Greater consistency between subjects
- Minimise the number of live sessions that need to be cancelled
- Balance 'live' sessions with independent tasks, giving students enough time to complete tasks

There were several examples of different viewpoints, for example some parents think that there is not enough 'live' input from teachers, others think that there is too much! We have, however, considered all of your suggestions for improvement. Your views form a valuable part of our ongoing review and improvement planning.

Finally

Please continue to check your emails, and the school website, for important re-opening information over the coming week.

Yours faithfully



Ms Janet Sheriff
Executive Headteacher