



SMA/rsh

Friday, March 5, 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are extremely excited that our students will be returning to school next week. We have certainly missed them. We appreciate there will be a lot of excitement, but equally some anxiety in anticipation of this. In order to help support the students' return all students had a remote Personal Development session with their tutor this morning and will have an extended personal development session with their tutor on their first day back. If you or your child have any concerns, please inform their Tutor, Head of Year or a Senior member of staff.

A reminder that the students will have a phased return as follows:

Monday 8th March – Year 11 & Sixth Form (8.30am start)

Tuesday 9th March – Years 9 & 10 (8.40am start)

Thursday 11th March – Years 7 & 8 (8.50am start)

Uniform

The students need to wear full school uniform when they return. On a day where students have PE, or Dance they MUST attend in their full PE kit.

Staggered start and finish times will continue as follows:

Arrival

Year 11 (Front Gates) and Sixth Form (Gym Gates) at 8.30am

Year 9 (Front Gates) and Year 10 (Gym Gates) at 8.40am

Year 7 (Front Gates) & Year 8 (Gym Gates) at 8.50am

Departure

Year 11 (Front Gates) and Sixth Form (Gym Gates) at 2.45pm

Year 9 (Front Gates) and Year 10 (Gym Gates) at 2.40pm

Year 7 (Front Gates) & Year 8 (Gym Gates) at 3.05pm

Student timetables will remain the same as they were before Christmas. The system of controls will remain the same, which include:

- Students should socially distance where possible.
- Face coverings will need to be worn at all times inside buildings (including lessons) for a limited period of time.
- Enhanced handwashing/sanitising.

Remote Learning

Teachers will continue to set remote learning next week for year groups until they return to the site.

Face Coverings

The government guidance is still that where pupils in Year 7 and above are educated, they recommend that face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils when outdoors on the premises.

In addition, the government now also recommend that face coverings should be worn in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. 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, which will continue to take place outdoors where possible.

The government are taking this additional precautionary measure for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. These measures will be in place until Easter. As with all measures, they will keep it under review and update guidance at that point.

Exemption from wearing a face covering

If your child(ren) has a health or disability reason for not wearing a face covering, please inform the school (if you have not previously done so), so we can add them to the exemption list so teachers and staff are aware.

Please ensure your child has a face covering with them every day upon their return unless you have informed us they are exempt.

Lateral Flow Testing

Years 10 to 13 should access a community test by the Local Authority (Essex County Council) between **Thursday 4th and Sunday 7th March**. ***Please note that a test is not a pre-requisite for returning to school although we strongly advise students take this opportunity to keep themselves and the school community safe.*** Please only notify the school if the test is positive.

Accessing a Test in the Community

A lateral flow test (LFT) allows people who have no symptoms to find out if they are infected. It's a rapid test and you can get a result within 20-30 minutes. You can book an appointment online at www.essex.gov.uk/getting-tested or by calling 0333 772 6144.

Please note these tests are for those who are not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. If

you are showing signs of symptoms, please book a test here: www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test. Please do not get a test if you have had a positive test in the last 90 days, as it may give an incorrect positive result.

Year 9 have been attending school today to have their first test. If you *only* consented today (Friday 5th March) via email or signing the form, please be advised that you **will not** receive notification from the NHS Test and Trace website in this instance. The school would only inform you if the test was positive.

From Monday, testing on the school site will take place as follows:

Monday 8th March	2 nd Test - Years 11 to 13
Tuesday 9th March	2 nd Test - Years 9 and 10
Wednesday 10th March	1 st Test – Years 7 and 8* Information below
Thursday 11th March	3 rd Test – Years 11 to 13
Friday 12th March	3 rd Test – Years 9 and 10
Monday 15th March	2 nd Test – Years 7 and 8
Thursday 18th March	3 rd Test – Years 7 and 8

Year 7 and 8, 1st Test – Wednesday 10th March

Year 7 & 8 will be able to access their first test on the school site, before returning to school for lessons the following day. On Wednesday, the students should arrive at the following times and entrances for their test. They will then return straight home after their test.

Time	Tutor Group & Entrance to School Site
9.00am	7G1 (Front of School); 7G2 (Gym Gates)
9.30am	7L1 (Front of School); 7I2 (Gym Gates)
10.30am	7M1 (Front of School); 7M2 (Gym Gates)
11.00am	7S1 (Front of School); 7S2 (Gym Gates)
12.30pm	8G1 (Front of School); 8G2 (Gym Gates)

1.00pm	8L1 (Front of School); 8L2 (Gym Gates)
2.00pm	8M1 (Front of School); 8M2 (Gym Gates)
2.30pm	8S1 (Front of School); 8S2 (Gym Gates)

The Year 7 & 8 students **do not** need to wear school uniform when they come in for their test on this date.

If you have not consented to your child having a test, and you would like them to be tested, please email admin@boswells-school.com so the consent details can be sent to you.

Home Testing

Once the students have had their first 3 tests, they will be able to test at home. Home testing kits will be made available for this purpose, but please be aware that they have yet to be delivered to the school, so we are unable to supply these kits currently.

If your child is anxious about being tested in school, please reassure them that they will be fully supported by members of our team who will supervise and talk them through each stage. If you would prefer to test your child at home, you can pick up Rapid Tests from these collection points:

<https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter.html>

Following the Test

If a test result is positive the individual and the rest of the household must self-isolate. Where the test is taken in the community or at home, you must inform us straight away.

If a positive test occurs whilst the student is in school, we will isolate the student and any close contacts and inform parents immediately.

If the test result is negative, the individual does not need to self-isolate or take any further action. They should continue to practice social distancing and good hand hygiene in-line with the national guidance.

Extra-Curricular

Government guidelines stipulate that extra-curricular activities should not resume until after the Easter break. We will send parents information in due course when we are able to resume them.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that all these measures are in place to ensure we can safely return to face to face learning. I would like to thank our staff, parents and students for all their hard work whilst we have been working remotely, it has been hugely appreciated.

Many thanks for your continued support and patience.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Mansell
Headteacher

