

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Return to school: March 2021**

Following the Government announcements early this week and today, all schools have now received new operational guidance manuals for **reopening**, and specific details on **how 'GCSE, AS and A level grades will be determined in Summer 2021'** (released Thursday 25 March).

Following the release of these documents, we are writing to you today with the following information and dates for your diaries; we will be sending out a comprehensive, detailed pack for student return next week.

### **Dates for your diary:**

The school will be offering the **first** of a series of three on-site Asymptomatic voluntary tests in school during the week beginning 8 March.

### **1. Lateral Flow Tests**

As part of the return to face-to-face lessons for all students, schools are being asked to conduct Lateral Flow Tests with all those for whom consent has been given by a parent or carer. The aim of this testing is to ensure that any members of the school community who may be asymptomatic carriers of the virus are identified and therefore potential further transmission prevented. Testing is voluntary but we strongly encourage our students to take part to ensure that the school environment can function as safely and effectively as possible.

Please click the links for further information on how your child should take the test:

[https://rossett.school/cv/how\\_to\\_take\\_your\\_test.pdf](https://rossett.school/cv/how_to_take_your_test.pdf)

Please click the link to read the school's Privacy Notice:

[https://rossett.school/cv/privacy\\_notice.pdf](https://rossett.school/cv/privacy_notice.pdf)

We would be grateful if you would click the link below to complete the consent details as soon as possible and by 3pm Monday 1 March 2021 at the latest:

<https://rossett.school/covidconsent>

The testing will take place in school on the following days:

Monday 8 March	Years 11, 12 and 13
Tuesday 9 March	Years 7 and 10
Wednesday 10 March	Years 8 and 9
Thursday 11 March	Years 11, 12 and 13
Friday 12 March	Years 7 and 10
Monday 15 March	Years 8 and 9
Tuesday 16 March	Years 11,12 and 13
Wednesday 17 March	Years 7 and 10
Thursday 18 March	Years 8 and 9

Information regarding the booking system for the test will be sent out separately.

Once we have received the consents from Parents/Carers we will be able to confirm the phased return of students back into school.

### **2. GCSE and A level grades: Summer 2021**

For parents and students in our current Years 13 and 11, there are important dates for your diary. Please note these dates now and be aware that this event is earlier in the academic year than previously:

**Year 13/A Level Results' Day: 10 August 2021**

**Year 11/GCSE Results' Day: 12 August 2021**

### **Phased 'return to on-site learning' whilst continuing remote education**

Working from our model that allows for the greatest number of tests to take place on site each day, we have decided to test students in Years 7-13 at school from Monday 8 – Wednesday 10 March (please see the table above). Remote learning for all students will continue during this period of testing as our capacity to test large numbers is limited by our site. Years 13, 12 and 11 will be prioritised in the return to school as set out in the guidance.

In-school provision for the children of Key Workers will continue up to the point when all students return for face-to-face lessons.

### **Health and Safety**

All the safety measures outlined in the new operational guidance are largely the same as they were before Christmas; we have updated our risk assessments considering the changes that have been made for reopening in March. Students and parents will be sent a pack before reopening and students will be taken through the protocols in tutor time.

In summary, the **three** key differences that students will see when they return are:

- The **three voluntary lateral flow tests** for students in the first ten days of term;
- Testing moving to **home-testing** for students from 22 March 2021 (more details to follow next week). Staff will already be part of a programme of home testing from Monday 8 March;
- **Face coverings** must be worn in lessons, where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Further communication confirming the phased return to school will be issued next week together with a detailed information pack for all students.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

H Woodcock  
Headteacher