

HOLBROOK ACADEMY



Headteacher: Thomas Maltby BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: George Anstee-Parry

26th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I want to begin my communication this week by emphasising that Holbrook Academy is very much looking forward to welcoming students back to school from 8th March. I also want to thank the significant number of parents / carers who responded to my request on Tuesday to provide consent for their child to be tested on return to school. If you would like your child to be tested and have not yet provided consent, please refer to my letter of [23rd February](#) for full details. A direct link to the consent form can be found [here](#).

Your responses to this request have now informed our planning for a staggered return to school. Although national guidelines allow for schools to stagger the return of students over the course of a week, Holbrook Academy is putting in place plans to ensure that all students are back in classrooms by the end of Wednesday 10th March. Throughout these three days, no student who is being tested will return to their classroom before they have been tested and no student will be tested unless we have your written consent.

On Friday 6th March, the Academy will be testing the cohort of students who have remained on site throughout the national lockdown within our provision. From Monday 8th March, the Academy intends to deliver the following schedule:

Date	Year	Travelling by Bus	Walking / Travelling by car
Monday 8 th March	11	From 8am	Arrive at school from 11.20am
Tuesday 9 th March	10	From 8am	Arrive at school from 11.20am
Tuesday 9 th March	7	From 8am	Arrive at school from 1.15pm
Wednesday 10 th March	8	From 8am	Arrive at school from 11.20am
Wednesday 10 th March	9	From 8am	Arrive at school from 1.15pm

You will note that the Academy will need to test those students who travel to school by bus at the start of the day as they have less flexibility regarding their arrival time.

If you have consented to your child taking part in the lateral flow testing **please could you complete this form to help us ascertain how your child will be travelling to school:-**

[Return to School: Additional Information](#)

The Academy will then provide a specific time for your child to return to school over the course of these three days; and this will help us to ensure that students are not waiting for long periods of time for their first lateral flow test.



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For those students who are not to be tested, they will be allowed to return to their classroom at the start of the day that their year group returns to school. For students who have been accessing our onsite provision, they will return to their classrooms at the same time as their peers in their year group; although they will continue to access remote learning on site up until this point.

Remote learning lessons or activities will continue for all students up to the point of returning to their classroom.

The Academy has also updated its Covid-19 Risk Assessment in response to latest Government advice. This updated Risk Assessment is on the Academy website for your kind attention. Please note that there has been a change to the guidance on students wearing face masks, as follows:

“students in secondary schools are advised to wear face coverings in all areas, including classrooms, where social distancing cannot be maintained..”

Students who are exempt from wearing face masks continue to be exempt and the Academy will be promoting this new guidance to students on their return to school. If your child is not exempt from wearing a face mask, can you please ensure that they do bring a face mask when they return to school.

I would also like to inform you that there will be no food provision during the week of the staggered start to school, therefore, please can you ensure that your child brings a packed lunch to school up to and including Friday 12th March. The pre-order catering service will resume on Monday 15th March and further details on this will follow. Information will be sent separately to all parents/carers whose child is eligible for a free school meal.

This week has seen further significant announcements from Ofqual and the Department for Education. Next week, I intend to provide an update on our current use of catch-up money and our further plans for intervention and support. Mr Hart will also be writing to Year 11 parents and students on Monday 1st March with a full overview of the Academy's response to developments regarding how qualifications will be awarded.

At the centre of our responses to a wide range of significant national announcements is Holbrook Academy's resolute commitment to safety, wellbeing and the primacy of learning.

I wish you all a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Maltby