

26th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this finds you and your family well.

Mass Asymptomatic Testing

We have received a number of queries regarding the return to school and education of children for whom consent has not been given for Lateral Flow Device testing.

I would like to reassure you that we are fully understanding of a child's right to face to face education even if they have not received a negative result following a lateral flow test. The advice from government states that mass asymptomatic testing is not mandatory but **is strongly recommended** to promote the safety of the school community. During these difficult times we fully subscribe to this and I hope parents will understand that this is a government led, rather than school led, initiative. Having researched all other schools in the locality I can confirm that they are following very similar routes.

Should you not wish to give consent for your child to be tested students may return to school "in line with phased return arrangements". This, therefore, means that your child will be able to return the day after the testing of his/her year group, as per the previously released schedule with the earliest start being Monday 8th March.

Start dates for students not undertaking asymptomatic testing:

Year 11	Monday 8th March
Year 10	Monday 8th March
Year 7	Tuesday 9th March
Year 9	Wednesday 10th March
Year 8	Thursday 11th March

In the unfortunate event of a positive case of COVID 19 the school will reserve the right to widen the sphere of close contacts who need to self-isolate should the students in question not have recorded negative lateral flow test results administered by the school. Furthermore, following recent training of relevant staff we are currently instructed that we may not release lateral flow devices to be sent home unless the required three tests have been undertaken in school.

Inset Day – 19th April 2021

Following the Government announcement yesterday regarding the methodology and timeline for submission for this year's GCSE grades we will be changing our next Inset day from the 19th April to Monday 24th May. This decision has been taken, in consultation with Surrey County Council and the Governing Body, in order to allow teachers and students time to prepare and undertake assessments and moderate marks in preparation for the final submission of the GCSE grades by the 18th June. I appreciate this is a change of publicised date but this decision has been taken in light of the most recent

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government decision and in the interests of our Year 11 students to give them the best possible chance to prepare in the timescale allowed. I hope this will be widely understood by all.

Year 9 Parents Evening

Please may I remind Parents that Year 9 Parents' evening is taking place on Thursday 4th March from 3pm to 6pm. School will therefore finish for the Keyworker/Vulnerable students in school at 2.30pm to allow teachers time to prepare for the evening.

With thanks for your support as we strive to keep abreast of these latest developments. Stay safe.

Onward and Upward.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Potten', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Mr S Potten
Headteacher