

## **Cardinal Langley RC High School**

'An Outstanding Catholic School' S48, March 2017

Rochdale Road, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2GL T: 0161 643 4009 | E: admin@clrchs.co.uk | W: www.clrchs.co.uk Headteacher: Mr A Bridson B.Sc. (Hons), MA (Education), NPQH

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all of our students back to school and thank you for your support over the last few months of home schooling. I know that students are keen to return to lessons, and to see their friends, and have included some important information below on how this can be achieved safely.

As a school we have a robust system of controls to minimise the spread of the virus. The system in place before Christmas worked well and the students are familiar with the routines, so we will continue with these procedures until at least Easter and review. This means the zones, bubbles and timings of the school day will continue as they were in the autumn term. The Government announcement on Monday has also introduced additional requirements for the wearing of face coverings and for students to be tested.

It is now expected that all students will wear a face covering, both in communal areas as in the autumn term, but also in classrooms. We expect students to bring their own disposable or reusable face covering as there is only a limited supply in school for use in emergencies. There are some circumstances where students may not be able to wear a face covering and we will provide a green badge for any student who is exempt in line with Government guidelines. To adhere to the Government control measures, we ask that all students wear a face covering unless parents / carers have completed this <u>form</u> regarding an exemption.

The Government guidance also states that students should return to face to face education following their first negative lateral flow test result which will be undertaken at school. Unfortunately, the announcement that students will return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March was misleading as it is impossible to have all 1200 students tested in a single day. The testing will, therefore, be phased over a period of 3 days starting on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March and students will be sent an appointment time for their first test in a separate letter. Once students have had 3 tests in school then they will be able to start home testing. The dates for testing and return to face to face lessons for different year groups are below:

- Year 11 & Sixth Form testing on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March and return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. There will be no lessons for Year 11 & Sixth Form on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March.
- Years 7 & 10 testing on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and return to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. There will be no lessons for Years 7 & 10 on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- Years 8 & 9 testing on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March and return to school on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Lessons will continue online on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. There will be no lessons on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March.
- Provision for critical worker and vulnerable students will remain in place until all students are accessing face to face lessons.













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The Government has stated that attendance from these dates is mandatory and the usual rules on school attendance apply.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and this system has been working well since the start of the year with the staff and students on site. Lateral flow tests are self-administered and are quick and easy to complete using a swab of your nose and throat. Results (which usually take approx. 30 mins from testing) will be shared directly with students. It is necessary for parents / carers to provide consent prior to tests being undertaken. The consent form can be accessed <a href="here">here</a> and the privacy statement for the COVID testing can be found <a href="here">here</a>. I appreciate that there are likely to be questions regarding the testing programme and further information from Public Health about the testing procedure can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

School has been running a very successful laptop loan scheme for students to borrow devices during lockdown. Students will be allowed to keep these devices until at least Easter until the situation becomes clearer.

The priority for all in our community is that staff and students can return safely and I am sure I can count on your support. The most important measure is that anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school and should arrange to be tested at one of the local centres. The existing system of controls in school, along with the new expectations for testing and wearing of face coverings, will minimise the risk of transmission as much as possible. Unfortunately, if any positive cases are identified, the isolation requirements and contact tracing protocols agreed with Public Health will continue.

Please would you remember to load any money onto student accounts before they return and if students require medication in school, that they bring it to the front office on their first day back.

I appreciate that there is a lot of information contained in this letter and the DfE have produced the following document that should answer any queries What parents need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19

Your continued support is greatly appreciated

Mr A Bridson Headteacher









