



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

Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Firstly, many thanks for all of the positive feedback that we are receiving regarding our remote learning – your support with this has been very much appreciated. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our students back to face to face learning next week and are hoping that remote learning will soon become a thing of the past.

Further to my update last week, there has been further information released that you need to be aware of, along with some frequently asked questions.

Awarding of Exam Grades 2021

On Monday 4th January the Prime Minister announced that summer exams would not go ahead as normal this year and a consultation was subsequently undertaken by Ofqual to decide on how grades should be awarded. The outcome of the consultation was released last week and can be found [here](#).

We are pleased that the outcome of the consultation recognises that teachers know their students well and are best placed to ensure students receive grades which are fair and accurately reflect what they know, understand and can do.

Ofqual have produced the summary below to explain how grades will be awarded this year and we will shortly be providing further details regarding how this will be implemented at Cardinal Langley.

How GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021			ofqual
Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals	
Graded by teacher judgement	Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence	Results days AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August	
Not graded by an algorithm	Non-exam assessment should continue	If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college.	
School and college assessments can continue	Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete		
You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught	Art & design grade based only on your portfolio	You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website	
Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you	Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to		
Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded	Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best		
		www.gov.uk/ofqual	





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Transport

School buses will be available from next week and follow the same schedules as in the autumn term.

Public transport in Greater Manchester will be busier as restrictions are eased. In preparation for students returning to school please find below a reminder of the key messages from TfGM.

Please can all students cycle or walk to school if they can. If they need to use public transport, they should remember to:

- *Wear a face covering on-board and in stations and interchanges, unless they are under 11 or exempt for another reason.*
- *Keep their distance where they can on platforms, stops, stations and on-board.*
- *Clean their hands frequently and carry hand sanitiser.*
- *Use contactless payment, buying tickets online for smart cards or using mobile apps where possible or use exact change only if needing to pay with cash.*

There will be more travel updates as restrictions are eased, so please keep checking the [TfGM coronavirus travel page](#) for the latest advice.

Uniform Swap

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council are supporting Rochdale Parent Carers Voice to organise a school uniform swap scheme across the Borough. This scheme will help families whose children have outgrown their uniform over lockdown. We have been asked for your support in circulating this to parents and carers.

How does it work?

Families can donate items of school uniform that are too small or no longer needed to Rochdale Parent Carers Voice. They can either receive the same number of items back in a bigger size or state that they do not want anything back in return. Families who are struggling can also contact Rochdale Parent Carers Voice discreetly and request items of uniform without donating anything. We appreciate that some families have a great relationship with their schools but also that some might feel uncomfortable telling their children's school that they are struggling financially at the current time. Where possible, Rochdale Parent Carers Voice will make sure that each family receives donated items in the correct size. The items can be school-specific e.g. sweatshirts, blazers, coats, ties, cardigans or polo shirts or generic shirts, trousers, skirts, school shoes, pinafore dresses or PE kit.

Rochdale Parent Carers Voice are not collecting underwear, socks or tights.

Who is it for?

This scheme is for everyone in Rochdale.

COVID Safety

The swap will take place at our base at Blue Pit Mill which is a COVID secure place with strict protocol for social distancing, hygiene and disinfecting and parents/carers will book slots on Eventbrite to come along. The parent/carer





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forum have worked with the Public Health Infection Control team to ensure suitable and sufficient infection control measures are in place.

If you have any questions, please email RochdalePCV@outlook.com

Wider Opening of Schools from Monday 8th March

The DfE has provided schools with comprehensive guidance for how this can be achieved safely and protect all in our community. We have updated our school risk assessment to reflect the changes and this can be found on our school website at <https://www.clrchs.co.uk/parent-updates-from-the-headteacher/>

The DfE have also updated their guidance for parents which can be found at [What parents need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#)

It will be **Week A** when we return and students will follow their normal timetable and should bring the correct equipment. Year 11 and Sixth Form students will have an induction and exam information session period 2 on Monday and all students will have a wellbeing session on Wednesday period 3.

As mentioned in my update last week, the return of all students will be phased over a few days due to the logistics of the testing process. The dates for testing, and return to face to face lessons for different year groups, are below:

- Year 11 & Sixth Form – testing on Friday 5th March and return to school on Monday 8th March. There will be no lessons for Year 11 & Sixth Form on Friday 5th March.
- Years 7 & 10 – testing on Monday 8th March and return to school on Tuesday 9th March. There will be no lessons for Years 7 & 10 on Monday 8th March.
- Years 8 & 9 – testing on Tuesday 9th March and return to school on Wednesday 10th March. Lessons will continue online on Monday 8th March. There will be no lessons on Tuesday 9th March.

Detailed information and timings regarding the testing have been provided in a separate letter. The testing is a critical way we can play our part in continuing to drive down the levels of the virus in our local community and enable us to get to the point when the current restrictions are lifted. There are 2 key reasons for the testing of pupils:

1. To identify asymptomatic pupils who have come to school and could, unknowingly, be spreading the virus to others.
2. To familiarise pupils with how to conduct the test as they, with your support will be given some tests and be asked to conduct two tests per week at home. We will contact you separately with details of this.

Thank you to those who have consented to the lateral flow testing. If you have not yet completed the consent form, this can be accessed [here](#). If we do not receive consent students will not be able to be tested. All students should join face to face lessons at the same point as their peers.





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DfE Guidance on Wearing of Face Coverings

As a school we regularly update our risk assessment and follow the latest Government guidance. The current DfE guidance includes the following:

In schools and colleges where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by everyone (unless exempt) when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.

In these schools and colleges, we now also recommend that face coverings should be worn in classrooms and during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained. This will not apply in situations where a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example PE lessons. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils or students when outdoors on the premises.

The wearing of face coverings in classrooms is being introduced for a limited time until Easter. It will be kept under review and our guidance will be updated at that point.

Availability of Lateral Flow Testing for Households of Students and Staff

The DfE has asked us to provide you with the following information:

Around 1 in 3 people with coronavirus (COVID-19) do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms (asymptomatic testing) is important to help stop the virus spreading. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease, we all need to play our part to help protect each other.

On Sunday 28th February, the Department of Health and Social Care announced that from Monday 1st March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8th March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. Twice-weekly testing will also be offered to adults working in the wider school community, including bus drivers and after school club leaders. Schools and colleges will not be expected to provide the test kits to families or administer the family testing process.

Further details regarding this, including how to obtain the test kits, can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mr A Bridson
Headteacher

