



Friday 5 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I very much hope that this will be the last weekly update that I need to write to you. We are really looking forward to welcoming our pupils back into school next week and from discussions with parents and pupils it seems everyone is keen to get back to some form of normality. As mentioned last week our return will be staggered over the first three days of next week, to allow for testing, and looks like this.

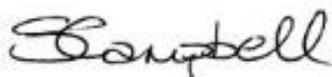
Monday 8 March - Year 11 return at 8.40am and Year 10 return at 9.50am using their normal entrances. They will be directed where to go on entry. Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Year 9 return at 8.55am and Year 8 at 9.50am using their normal entrances and go to their normal classroom. Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Year 7 return at 8.50am using their normal entrance and go to their normal classroom.

Once in school pupils will be brought down for testing to take place. Please ensure you have completed and returned the consent form that was sent to you via Synergy earlier in the week. It is vital that as many pupils as possible take part in testing to allow us to keep the school community safe, keep pupils and their families safe and keep transmission in the community down. Pupils will only be tested if a consent form has been returned. Once a pupil is tested and has a negative result they will remain in school for face to face education to start. Any pupil testing positive will be isolated and parents will be contacted to come and collect them. Normal self-isolation for 10 days would then be needed before returning to school. To assist in the prevention of spreading Covid all pupils and staff in schools will be expected to wear face masks in the classroom, as well as in communal areas. The only pupils who won't need to do this are those who we already know are exempt for medical reasons. Pupils are responsible for bringing their own masks to school. We do have some spare masks but we will charge 50p for any pupil requiring one. If you think your child is likely to forget their mask, please ensure they have 50p with them.

In preparing for the return to school we will be expecting all pupils to bring their own equipment. We will still provide whiteboards, whiteboard rubbers and glue sticks but all pens, pencils, whiteboard markers, rulers, rubbers and maths equipment should be brought from home. We have sent a message on Synergy to pupils reminding them of this. When pupils return they will have some time to sort their packs of equipment before starting lessons.

I would also like to ask for your assistance in the following matter. A lot of our books were not returned to the library before the Christmas break. Could you please remind your child to bring back any borrowed books from the LRC? To check which books are on their account (with book covers) go to <https://library.thehollins.com> Click on 'Guest' in the top right-hand corner to log in using your child's TEAMS username and password. Once logged in click on their name and 'My Borrowing Details' to open their dashboard. This will tell you which books they still have. These books can be dropped in to the LRC at any time during the day.

Kind regards,



Headteacher