



## COVID-19 UPDATE 18

7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **IMPORTANT: CHANGE TO START OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS & COVID TESTING**

As ever, I hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well.

Following this week's announcements by the Prime Minister and Secretaries of State for Health and Education, we now have clarity regarding the arrangements that schools will need to put in place for the start of the new academic year in September.

I am sure that, like me, you are pleased that under-18s will no longer be required to self-isolate if they have been identified as a close contact of somebody who has tested positive for COVID-19 (although self-isolation will still be required if they themselves test positive). It is also good news that, when we return to school in September, there will no longer be a requirement for students to be kept in year group bubbles and therefore, we can look forward to a return to normal school life and the reintroduction of normal extra-curricular activities.

### **Return to School Arrangements**

In preparing for the start of term, the government has advised the following:

*"As pupils will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all secondary school pupils should receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term.*

*Settings may commence testing from 3 working days before the start of term and can stagger return of pupils across the first week to manage this. Pupils should then continue to test twice weekly at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed."*

Therefore, in accordance with this guidance, and similar to the process we followed at the end of the spring lockdown, we will be testing all year groups on their return to school. This will necessitate a staggered start for year groups, with students being tested, either before the start of term or on their first day back in school. The table overleaf summarises the testing and return arrangements.

In order for testing in school to take place, a consent form must be completed. We already have consent forms for students, who in September will be in years 10, 11, 12 (for students who were in Year 11 at Prince Henry's) and 13, but will require consent forms for students who have not previously been tested at Prince Henry's, ie Years 9 and students new to Prince Henry's who will be joining us in Year 12. A copy of the consent form will be included in the summer mailing pack sent to Years 9 and 12; a copy is also available to download in the COVID Updates area of the school website.

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The Prince Henry's High School Academy Trust trading as Prince Henry's High School, registered as a company in England and Wales at the above address. Reg No 07512962

**Working in collaboration with Bredon Hill and St Egwin's Middle Schools**

Year Group	Testing Date 1	Return to School	Testing Date 2
13	<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b> • 10am - 3pm (Theatre)	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September,</b> <b>9am</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
12	<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b> • 10am - 3pm (Theatre)	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> • <b>Year 12 Induction Day</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
11	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b> (as part of first-day arrangements)	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September,</b> <b>9am</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> September
10	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b> (as part of first-day arrangements)	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September,</b> <b>9am</b>	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> September
9	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> (as part of Induction Day)	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> • <b>Year 9 Induction Day</b>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September

Please note that these arrangements mean that students in Year 10 will be returning to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, rather than Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

### Home Testing

Government guidance currently states that twice-weekly lateral flow testing should be undertaken at home by students and school staff until the end of term. Test kits will be issued to students to ensure an adequate supply for this to continue.

In September, following the completion of the initial two tests in school, further home testing kits will be distributed to students for testing to continue until the end of September, at which point this policy will be reviewed by the government.

### Face Coverings

The new government guidance states that, from Step 4 (anticipated to be 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021), *'Face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas....From Step 4, face coverings are also no longer recommended to be worn on dedicated transport to school or college and are no longer legally required on public transport'*.

### Key Diary Dates

Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	TERM ENDS, 3.25pm	
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	AS/A Level Results	8am - 11am
	Results Consultation	9am - 2pm
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	A Level Results Consultation	9am - 11am (exceptional circumstances)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	GCSE Results (Year 11)	9am - 11am
	GCSE Results (Year 10)	10.30am-11.30am
	Results Consultation	9am - 2pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	Results Consultation	9am-11am (exceptional circumstances)
	Deadline for online subject options for Year 12 entry	3.30pm
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Covid testing for Year 13	10am - 3pm (Theatre)
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Covid testing for Year 12	10am - 3pm (Theatre)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Induction Day for Years 9 and 12	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 11 & Year 13 return to school	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 10 return to school	

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Dr A Evans  
Headteacher