



Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Families

Our Return to School - March 2021

I feel very excited at the prospect of having all of our students back at Parkside very soon. This letter aims to share with you some of the 'headlines' as we continue to plan for the return.

Lateral Flow Testing

Before long we will be providing all students and staff with 'test at home' kits which I think is an excellent idea. Up to that point, we are planning to do a series of three such tests in school, as students return, following Government guidelines. These will take place with intervals of 3-5 days between each test.

The first test is the most important as it should allow us to spot possible cases in the school community before everyone mixes together and returns to lessons. Of course, the more students who take part with parental consent, the more effective this programme will be. For everyone's benefit, I would urge you please to sign up for the testing if you haven't already done so:

[Click here to sign the consent form.](#)

Week commencing 1st March

During next week, beginning with Monday 1st March, we will be allowing our department teams some time, a day at a time, to come into school to get ready for the return. This will mean that on each day next week a small proportion of lessons will not be live. Students should log onto Google Classroom each lesson as usual for instructions. We have planned this programme so that Year 11 and Year 13 lessons are largely unaffected.

Our timetable for the full return to school

We will stagger the return to school to allow us to complete the lateral flow tests and reduce the risk of transmission between students should anyone receive a positive test result **(please see the timetable below - lessons in school will not resume on 8th March)**. We plan to ask students to first of all attend for a COVID testing appointment only - to arrive at the time issued individually and to then go straight home afterwards. We will then email the result to parents.

By completing the first test in this way we can effectively keep students apart whilst we wait for the results. Students can attend for their test appointment in non-uniform.



Online lessons will continue for the duration of the day when students are asked to attend for a test appointment. They should attend online lessons before and after the test appointment as appropriate, of course leaving plenty of time to get to school for the test appointment.

There are a small number of students who do not live locally and for whom a short journey to school for a quick test appointment is not practical. Should this be the case, we may be able to accommodate you in school for the day. Please email Mrs Craddock if this is the case: kcraddock@cap.education

Those students who are not taking part in the testing programme should complete the full programme of online lessons from home on the testing day (see timetable below).

Overview schedule

Date	AM	PM
Thursday 4th March		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 pm Online information session with Mr Morrison: the link will be shared next week
Friday 5th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th Form students Test Round 1 (attend only for an appointment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students attending the in-school provision (e.g. keyworker children) Test Round 1
Monday 8th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y10 and Y11 students come to site for testing appointments only All lessons continue online In-school provision e.g. for keyworkers continues on-site 	
Tuesday 9th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff return to school Y10 and Y11 students return to lessons in school Y7-Y9 & 6th Form lessons continue online (staff teach from school) Y7-Y9 students come to site for testing appointments only KS3 Keyworker provision continues in school 	
Wednesday 10th March onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students are back in lessons Round 2 & 3 testing begins (timetable tbc) - with minimum 3 day gap between tests. 	

There is more detail to share with you next week, to include:

- Practical arrangements once we return to school
- More detailed schedules of when students will be asked to come to school for their first test

Further letters will be issued to explain the arrangements, plus the online information session, next Thursday 4th March at 6 p.m. The link will be sent ahead of the meeting.



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We will also be in touch with Year 11 and Year 13 students and parents separately on developments regarding their courses and awarding grades.

In the meantime, I would like to wish you all a peaceful weekend with the hope of some good weather,

Yours sincerely

Craig Morrison