

14/12/21

Changes to the planned return of students in January

Dear Parents, Carers, Students,
Staff and Friends of the School



In line with guidance from the Department for Education, when students return in January, schools and colleges are once again being asked to run an **asymptomatic testing programme on site**.

Many people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school caused by asymptomatic transmission.

The number of Covid cases at NDHS is currently low, and has been since October half term but we must be cautious. The new intelligence we have about Omicron and the changing guidance we are receiving means that the **school will now be re-opening in January in a phased/staggered manner**. This is the best way to ensure that we restrict the number of contacts pupils will have with each other before consenting pupils return a negative Lateral Flow Device Test.

Consent has already been requested from all families for our previous rounds of on-site Lateral Flow Testing. If you have previously consented but now wish to withdraw your consent, please contact Dr Stevenson: sstevenson@ndhs.org.uk

Google classrooms will be populated with independent learning for Year 9, 10 and 11. Pupils will need to log on using pre-existing codes, which can be found [here](#). Work will only be set for lessons missed as a consequence of the staggered return. We ask all pupils to bring their reading book and some private study whilst they await their LFD test.

The schedule for return is as below:

Date	Time	Year Group	Year Groups in school
Tuesday 4.1.22	As specified in separate 6 th form communication.	Y12 + Y13	(Note this is a Staff Development Day)
Wednesday 5.1.22	8.40 arrival time, pupils go straight to their form room.	Y7	Y7, Y12, Y13
Wednesday 5.1.22	1.30 arrival time, pupils go straight to their form room.	Y8	Y7, Y8, Y12, Y13
Thursday 6.1.22	8.40 arrival time, pupils go straight to their form room.	Y9	Y7, Y8, Y9, Y12, Y13
Thursday 6.1.22	1.30 arrival time, pupils go straight to their form room.	Y11	Y7, Y8, Y9, Y11, Y12, Y13
Friday 7.1.22	8.40 arrival time, pupils go straight to their form room.	Y10	Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10, Y11, Y12, Y13

Pre-return LFD test at home:

We once again urge all consenting families to support the school in reducing the infection rate by ensuring their children and young people test themselves the night before or morning before returning to school. We are keen to monitor these test results carefully. Please log the results on the Government form and the NDHS Google form, which can be found [here](#). We know that families are suffering 'testing fatigue' but we thank you in advance for your support in keeping the community as safe as possible.

Best Wishes,

Tom Pinnington – Headteacher