



15th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to offer this opportunity to recognise your support over the past academic year. This year has been full of challenge and uncertainty, and we thank you for providing us, the academy, and our young people with support, guidance, and encouragement to ensure that we could maintain high standards and minimise the impact on learning. For this, alongside your kind words, emails, and calls, we thank you. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our student community – and we are proud to see how resilient and adaptable they have been this year and we really look forward to September 2021 – and welcoming the students back to the academy, for what will hopefully be a more consistent academic year.

The Government recently sent guidance regarding the start of the academic year, and this letter will explain this update, and the end of term arrangements.

End of Term Arrangements

We are aware that there are rising cases in the community and are currently operating with 31% of our staff body absent or isolating, with a significant number of students off also. Over the past few days, we have been communicating with the local authority, the department of health and our Trust board - frequently updating them of our ever-changing situation - and they have confirmed we are representative of other schools in the community.

Due to this, it has been agreed that tomorrow (3.05pm) will be our last day of face-to-face teaching and from Monday, we will move to remote learning for Monday 19th July and Tuesday 20th July. This remote learning will follow the same format as it has previously, with tutor time and lessons scheduled by teachers and lessons being taught live. Please be aware that we do have staff that are absent due to Covid and are ill – but we will always provide work and a live teacher to support our students.

Please see some key information below:

Friday 16th July 2021:	Students <u>in school</u> (or remote for those isolating) as normal. Non-school uniform day (£1 donation)
Monday 19th July 2021:	Remote Learning for all students (8.30am – 3.05pm)
Tuesday 20th July 2021:	Remote learning - P1, P2, P3 only for all students (8.30am – 12.20pm)

Online lessons end on Tuesday 20th July 2021. This will be a shorter day, with students finishing lessons at 12.20pm.

Staggered Return: September 2021

The academy will begin its reopening on 3rd September 2021, as previously advertised. However, *not all students* will return on this date as the Government has requested that all students (who opt-in) attend the academy once they have had two Lateral Flow Tests (LFT), in school. If your child is in Y7, or you had not previously consented to testing and want to now, please see Appendix A (at the end of this letter) for registration procedures.

All re-registered or newly registered students will need to be entered onto our system by **3pm on Monday 9th August 2021** – so we ask that you complete the form (linked on Appendix A) by this deadline.

Following the first of two LFT tests, students can return to the academy. Please may it be noted here, the government guidance, in September, is to not complete contact tracing – nor to close classes and bubbles, and so, we strongly encourage all our students and staff body to test during this period..

In order to allow for this testing, there will be a staggered start for all year groups in September. The tables below show:

- The dates of your child's first Lateral Flow test (if you chosen to opt into this process)

- The start date for full time, on-site, teaching for all students.

No student will be penalised for not testing, all students in a year group return on the same day (Lateral Flow Testing for each year occurs the day before each particular year group returns). If your child is not being tested – they do not need to attend the academy until the date of full return for their year group.

Date of 1st Lateral Flow Test (allocated sessions for students who have consented for testing)

	Friday 3 rd September	Monday 6 th September 2021	Tuesday 7 th September 2021	Wednesday 8 th September 2021
Allotted Time Slot		Year 7 and Y12	Y8 and Y11	Y9 and Y10
8.30am – 9.30am		Newton	Newton Bronte 1/2	Newton
10.00am – 11.00am		Tull	Tull Bronte 3/4	Tull
11.30am – 12.30pm		Pankhurst	Pankhurst Bronte 5/6	Pankhurst
13.00pm – 14.00pm	13G1 & 13G2	Hawking Y12G1 & Y12G2	Hawking Bronte 7/8	Hawking
14.30pm – 15.30pm	13G3 & 13G4	Y12G3 & Y12G4	Bronte 9/10	

All students full return to the academy (students first day back)

	Monday 6 th September	Tuesday 7 th September	Wednesday 8 th September	Thursday 9 th September
Date of full time return to school	Y13	Y7 and Y12	Y8 and Y11	Y9 and Y10

Information about Testing

If you have opted to have your child tested, they will need to turn up at their allocated time slot and make their way to the K2 Building, the single storey building on the far side of the Academy's main car park, where a member of staff will greet them with further instructions.

Due to the extremely large number of students that have consented for testing, and due to mass registration of students, there will not be any changes to your child's allocated time slot - under any circumstances. This is due to the complex planning and registration administration that has already taken place following the Monday 9th August 2021, deadline of 3pm. No further consent forms will be accepted after this time. Any failure to turn up, lateness to an allocated slot or late submission for consent will result in a missed opportunity and cannot be rebooked. We have a very tight risk assessment in place to ensure safety is central, and therefore we cannot deviate off any planning. We thank you for understanding this and appreciate your support.

Please see below for further the details of the testing process:

- Parents or guardians will not be permitted to access the testing centre and cannot accompany children into the testing building. The academy will guide students through this process.
- Parents may wait outside the test centre, as testing is quick.
- Students arriving on site for their first Lateral Flow Test, will not be required to wear uniform. Of course, on their return to full-time schooling, the next day, full uniform is expected.
- Students will be lined up outside, so they will need to consider what clothing they wear, as it may be cold and raining.
- We will endeavour to do our best to move the students inside the test centre as quickly as possible.
- All students that enter the test centre will be required to wear a mask, so please ensure your child has one. Wearing of a mask whilst in the test centre is compulsory and no exemptions apply. This has been dictated by the Department of Health and is in place to protect staff and students. Please



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remember to inform your child to wear their masks in an appropriate manner that covers their mouth, nose, and chin, leaving no gaps on the sides,

- Once registration has been completed movement through the test centre is very swift and so, wearing of masks inside, for those students who may be ordinarily exempt, will be quick. We will make sure that we have lots of staff on hand to support any student who may be worried about this, or any other stage of the process.
- Once your child has been tested, they can return home ready to begin the new academic year, the next day. If they get a negative result, they can return to school on their planned, staggered return date (as above).
- All results come straight from the NHS and so, you will receive a text message or an email following the test (normally within 1-hour). In addition, if your child tests positive, we will call you as soon as we know – and follow the Covid-19 guidelines.

Once again, we thank you for your support and hope that this letter clears up any concerns you may have about the start of the new academic year. We are excited about our return in September, and we look forward to being together as a community. Please see attached registration links (if you have already completed this, you do not need to do another).

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team



Appendix A

How the tests work

- Those taking the test will be **supervised by trained staff and volunteers**.
- The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Students will do this themselves.
- Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual participant
- The school will inform the student of a positive test result.
- Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.
- The student will also receive a text/email notification of a positive or negative result from the online NHS system.

What if my child tests positive?

- If a pupil tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will be informed immediately by school and will need to take a further 'PCR test' to confirm the result. This should be on the same day or as soon as possible afterwards and these can be booked online.
- During the time while waiting for the PCR result (via text/email) they will need to self-isolate.
- If the PCR test returns a positive result they will have to continue to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

- While a small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, pupils who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal.
- Pupils will be informed of negative test results via text/email. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

What if my child develops symptoms?

- This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (including a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

How often will my child be tested?

- Once students have been tested twice – there will be no further testing, at this time, for students.

How do I give consent?

- All parents will need to give consent for their child to be tested. As a school we have an online School Screener service. Below is a step-by-step guide to access our School Screener service.

Step 1: Use the link provided to register yourself in the School Screener Portal

Click on the link, select register now and enter the details requested.

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/Covidmanager/p/CovidTesting/146379>



- You will be emailed a link to confirm your email address. If you do not receive this email to your inbox, please also check your junk folder
- Follow this link and set a password.
- Your account is now set up.

Step 2: Visit portal.schoolscreener.com and give consent

SchoolScreener

NHS **SchoolScreener**

Login

Email address
Email is required

Password
Forgot your password?

LOGIN

- Enter your email address and password and click login.
- You will now see a box titled "Covid Testing". Click on "Fill in the questionnaire form"
- Make sure the correct school is selected in the "Create a Submission" box, and then click Next.
- On the next page, enter all of the requested information about the person who will be tested: Once this is complete, click Save and Continue
- You will then be provided with information about the Covid Testing. Once you have read this, please record your consent at the bottom of the page. Then add your name and click Submit.

Step 3: If you have another child at the school, repeat the process.

- Return to the School Screener Homepage and click on the Add another child link
- Repeat steps 1 and 2 for this pupil.

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact office@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk.

As usual, we fully appreciate what a confusing and worrying time this is for everyone and we thank you wholeheartedly for your support with everything.