26 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I appreciate that I only wrote to you a few days ago but thought it would be helpful to clarify a few points before students begin their staggered return from Monday 1st March 2021.

The day will begin at 9:00am and finish at 3:00pm on Monday to Thursday and begin at 9:00am and finish at 1:30pm on Friday.

Those boys that are on the Kick-Start programme will start at 8:00am and leave at lunchtime as normal.

The school staff have been receiving Covid tests twice a week whilst on the school site and will continue to be testing throughout the next few months. All eligible teaching staff and LSAs have also received the first Covid Vaccination.

The boys will be offered a lateral flow Covid test whilst in school. These will be self-administered. I must emphasise that these are voluntary, and no pressure will be placed on the boys to take part.

We are expecting a delivery of home testing kits to arrive for the boys before the week beginning 8th March 2021. This will remove the staffing pressure of having to try to deliver lessons and test the school community at the same time.

In the boys first lesson on Monday 8th our Covid testing team will demonstrate to the boys how the home testing kits work. The boys will then take the kits home and test themselves weekly. It is essential that you inform the school if your son tests positive and that you isolate for the recommended 10 days as a family.

Please understand that we must plan for the worst but hope for the best. If the home testing kits do not arrive before the 8th March we will have to run the staggered timetable for a further week so that we can continue testing the boys on site. We are hopeful that this will not be necessary, but I am sure you appreciate that this is completely out of our control.

As a reminder the timetable of attendance will be as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Days Groups will be from Mon 1st – Fri 5th March | | | |
| Monday | Orange | Red | Green | Purple |
| Tuesday | Lime | Yellow | Blue | Silver |
| Wednesday | Orange | Red | Green | Grey |
| Thursday | Lime | Yellow | Blue | Purple |
| Friday | Silver | Grey |  |  |

All boys that have been attending every day over lockdown will continue to do so. Those boys who have been attending on odd days will be expected to slot into the timetable published above.

Please ensure that the boys attend school in unform and with PE kit, so they can engage fully in all activities. We are trying to return to as much normality as possible.

If your son is unwell and displaying any Covid symptoms, then please do not send them into school.

We will have a one-way system in place at school and will be practising social distancing as much as possible. To aid this all movement that can happen around the outside of the building will be encouraged, avoiding congestion in the corridors.

Please provide your son with a water bottle as the water fountain will remain out of action for the time being.

A copy of all letters sent home will now be placed on the new school website, so you can find them easily and refer to them when necessary.

As always, please do keep talking to us and if we can help in any way let us know.

Yours sincerely



David Pearce

Headteacher