

August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We do hope that you and your family have had a good summer break so far and have been able to have some quality time together as a family now many restrictions have been relaxed.

As we are rapidly approaching the start of term we felt it was necessary to update you on the measures that we will have in place within school to mitigate the risk of COVID-19. We have followed the DfE guidance which was updated on 27th August (a copy can be found [here](#)). As you will be aware, the guidance from DfE can change at any point and therefore these measures may need to be adjusted should this be the case. We will keep parents/carers, students and staff updated on any necessary changes throughout the term.

In line with DfE guidance we will have the following measures in place:

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone** – all students and staff will be expected to hand sanitise on entry to the site, on entry and exit to classrooms, dining areas, toilets and changing rooms.
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes** – additional cleaning throughout the school day will continue in high use areas and touch points around the school site.
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated** – classroom spaces will be ventilated through doors and windows being open, whilst maintaining a comfortable temperature. Doors and windows will be opened widely at break and lunch time to purge the air.
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19** – no student or member of staff should come on to the school site if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19. They must notify the school, book a PCR test if symptomatic (LFD tests should not be used as these are just for asymptomatic testing) and self-isolate immediately.
5. **Asymptomatic testing**- all consenting students will be tested twice prior to the start to term (see below for key dates). All students and staff will be supplied with LFDs to test twice weekly at home until the end of September., when it will then be reviewed by the DfE.
6. **Individual risk assessments** – these will be in place for any clinically extremely vulnerable student or member of staff.

In addition to the published guidance we will:

7. Retain **split break and lunches** to keep year groups separate.
8. Retain a **staggered exit from school**.
9. **Operate one-way systems** – these will remain in place in high use areas.
10. **Recommend the use of face coverings** – any member of the school community can continue to wear a face covering on school site and on school transport.

The school COVID-19 risk assessment is published on the website, and as a live document, **it will continue to be regularly reviewed as guidance is updated.**

As you will be aware, children under 18 will no longer need to self-isolate if they have been in close contact with a positive case. This will hopefully mean that our students experience little disruption to their learning in the new academic year.

Furthermore, in line with recently published DfE Contingency Framework for Schools (published on 17th August 2021), the school will introduce **extra measures** if 5 students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or 10% of students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period. These may include the temporary wearing of face coverings, a limit to the mixing of students, increased on-site testing, postponing trips and events and any other measures advised by the local Public Health team.

Asymptomatic Testing prior to re-opening

Please see below a reminder of the key dates and process for the forthcoming onsite COVID-19 testing prior to the start of term.

Please note that if your child has tested positive within the last 90 days they should not take part in the asymptomatic testing. We are delighted to have over 90% of the school population taking part in this testing prior to the start of term.

We have devised the following timetable to ensure we can manage the testing safely:

Date	Year 7, 10, 12	Year 8,9,11,13
Tuesday 31st August	1 st test on site (then return home)	
Wednesday 1st September		1 st test on site (then return home)
Thursday 2nd September	No testing-staff PD Day	
Friday 3rd September	2 nd test on site (then return home)	
Monday 6th September	Start of term 8.55am	2 nd test on site (then return home)
Tuesday 7th September		Start of term 8.55am

Testing on site

- The on-site testing centre will be open from 7.30am to 4.30pm in the sports hall.
- We will not be allocating appointments. Please attend the onsite testing centre at a convenient time.
- Students in all year groups will need to attend on the allocated days (see above timetable) to be tested.
- They will register at the entrance door to the sports hall in the bus bay.
- Students will undertake the lateral flow test in the sports hall and then leave via the main car park exit.
- **Students will then return home straight after the test.** They will not be able to remain on site.
- The test will take less than 5 minutes, although a queuing system will be in place to access the on-site testing facility.

- Eggescliffe school staff will be running the onsite testing centre which starts operating during their summer holiday.
- Students are not required to wear their school uniform to come onsite for the two tests.
- For current Year 7-12 students we will use previous consent that was given on return to face to face lesson in March. For new students we will be in contact over the holiday period to gain consent.
- If parents/carers do not wish to consent, students will not take the two onsite tests.
- **Parents/carers can accompany their child for the test, if they so wish.**
- **To receive the result of the test parents/carers will need to follow the instructions on the card that will be given to the student as they enter the site.** This will require access to an internet enabled device such as a smartphone, laptop or PC.
- If they are positive on either test they must start to self-isolate and book a PCR test.
- If they are negative on both tests then they can attend school on the first day of term (Monday 6th September for Year 7, 10 and 12), Tuesday 7th September for Year 8, 9,11 and 13).

The measures listed above will be outlined to all staff and students on return so we can continue to keep our school community safe, in line with guidance from the Government.

We are very much looking forward to the start of the new academic year. We welcome Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 back on Monday, 6th September and the remaining year groups on Tuesday, 7th September.

Yours Faithfully,



Mrs L.Oyston

Head Teacher