



20-21-270

23 February 2021

TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parent/Carer

Full Return to School for Pupils From 08.03.21 – Communication 1

I wanted to write to you all at the earliest opportunity following the briefing our Prime Minister gave yesterday. I am delighted at the prospect of all our pupils returning to us during the week beginning 08 March 2021. I remain, however, cautious and ever focussed on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of staff, pupils and you as our Cams Hill School families as we plan and prepare for a 'full return' to school during what are still extremely challenging times.

I appreciate you will be keen to know how our plans may impact on you and your family routine established during the current lockdown and online learning at home. I am also aware that I do not want to cause 'information overload' despite there being so much information to share prior to all our pupils returning to Cams Hill School. I will continue to communicate regularly in writing and provide short video summaries at pivotal points to clarify the significant logistical information that needs to be shared with you and our pupils.

Can I thank you for your patience and understanding. We will continue to use this week to plan and will share with you full details for the week beginning 08 March 2021 in my weekly communication home this Friday. I hope the information that I am already able to share below will help you to start to plan soonest.

1. **The calendared INSET (staff training) day scheduled for Friday 12 March 2021 will be moved to Friday 05 March 2021.** There will be no Real Time Provision (online learning) or CWOSP (onsite provision for children of Critical Workers) provided on this day for pupils. Staff will be in school evaluating and implementing risk reduction measures, preparing for the forthcoming week and being tested. We are also undertaking a significant Management Information Systems move on this day.
2. **Phased Return.** I can confirm that in order to safely fulfil the Government expectations around pupil testing on school site, there will be a **phased return** of all pupils during the week beginning 08 March 2021. Only pupils who do not have symptoms of coronavirus or who are not required to undertake a period of self-isolation will be able to return to school. A specific communication about our testing programme for all pupils will follow shortly.
3. **Year 11 pupils will be required to visit the school site to undertake a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test on Friday 05 March 2021.** This will enable them to return to school for the full week beginning 08 March 2021. They will receive a scheduled test appointment time and then return straight home after their test.
4. **'Surge Testing'** on school site plays a significant part in the Governments strategy to facilitate a full return to school for all pupils. Whilst testing is not compulsory, it is strongly encouraged. A separate communication will follow to enable us to seek consent for participation in the LFD testing. The Government have stated a requirement for pupils to have three tests on their return to school. This requires significant scoping, planning, workforce investment and will involve some disruption to lessons when pupils are back learning on site.
5. **Home testing** has been identified to follow as a requirement for pupils and staff. We have no further information on this at present.
6. **Covid Kit.** Please may I ask you to begin to check on your child's Covid kit to ensure they have hand sanitiser, multiple face coverings (and plastic sandwich bags in which to store them carefully) a named water bottle, all stationery needed to be self-sufficient and a named reading book.



7. **Uniform.** Pupils will be returning in full school uniform including the optional plain round neck navy blue jumper. On days where they have PE on their timetable, they remain able to wear school PE kit with their blazer. Please can I ask that you check they have appropriate uniform for their return in less than two weeks time!
8. We remain committed participants of the **Hampshire and IOW Saliva Testing Programme** with staff currently involved in weekly testing. It is our hope that the programme will have capacity to involve our pupils in the near future. If/when we receive confirmation of this we will share this with you.

I continue to be incredibly appreciative of the support from our Cams Hill School community. I am acutely aware of how much, as our families, you have adapted to enable maximum access, engagement and progress with our online learning. I know many of our families and pupils will be extremely excited to return to school. I also understand that for some this return may be accompanied with anxiety - our teachers and pastoral teams are here to support our pupils every step of the way. It is vital that we remain acutely aware of the risk reduction measures that need to be maintained in order to continue to reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19.

Thank you in anticipation of your patience and continued support. More information will follow on Friday.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Harrison-Jones
Headteacher