



Mary Webb School & Science College, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 0TG

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26th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please read this letter with your child.

We hope you and your families are safe and well. We have missed our students very much and were hoping to welcome all the year groups back on Monday 8th March. However, the Department for Education (DfE) is recommending that secondary school students only return to class, following a negative result to a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) conducted in school. As a consequence of this, we will need to stagger the return of our students. We will keep the same year group 'bubbles' as were in place in the autumn term to facilitate this staggered start, as outlined below.

WB: 8 th March					
Day	Monday 8 th	Tuesday 9 th	Wednesday 10 th	Thursday 11 th	Friday 12 th
Students in school	Year 10 and 7 Only	Year 11 and 8 Only	Year 9 Only	ALL STUDENTS IN SCHOOL	
Testing	Year 10 and 7	Year 11 and 8	Year 9	Year 10 and 7	Year 11 and 8
WB: 15 th March					
Day	Monday 15 th	Tuesday 16 th	Wednesday 17 th	Thursday 18 th	Friday 19 th
Students in school	ALL STUDENTS IN SCHOOL				
Testing	Year 9	Year 10 and 7	11 and 8	Year 9	

Following the first three days of testing (shown in the table above) **all students** will return on **Thursday 11th March**, providing they have had a negative LFT result. On the days the students are not in school, remote learning tasks will continue to be assigned to students, as was the case prior to Monday 8th March. When the designated year groups are in school on 8th, 9th and 10th March, students will be in school all day and attend their normal lessons for that day.

It is vital the whole school community continues to follow the procedures that were in place at the end of the autumn term. We have included a reminder of these routines, with some updated recommendations from the DfE, in this letter. The DfE have also provided a webpage of information aimed at parents, which you can access by clicking the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>

Testing

For your child to be tested we require your consent. If you have not already done so, it is essential you complete the form, accessed via the link on the next page, to say whether you **do** or **do not** provide **consent** for your child to have an LFT. **This must be completed** by 12pm on Wednesday 3rd March to enable us to complete the administration process:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WZjHj6MVKUikOd9CWD8ApM3Qh6R0q_tDjTepJSiXX9pUOTNXWEFONU84WVA4SidEWkhGWDZSRTZETS4u

Consent can be withdrawn at any time. If your child withdraws consent at the time they are due to be tested, we will contact you to make you aware. **Staff cannot insist a child completes a test, even if consent has been granted.**

We will ask students to use their nose only (not their throat) to conduct the test. We have included a link which shows how the test will be conducted:

<https://youtu.be/9tYENz4IEdM>

Schools are being asked to conduct 3 tests, 3 to 5 days apart. Thereafter, schools will provide parents with Home Testing Kits. If a student tests positive, parents should book for their child to take a lab-based (PCR) test to confirm they have the virus (a positive test should be reported to the school).

As mentioned in previous correspondence, we have rigorous risk assessments and routines in place to ensure all students are kept safe, in accordance with government guidance. We will continue to operate a one-way system and stagger social times to minimise cross-over of year group bubbles.

Routines for returning on the 8th March

You will be aware the government has updated its guidance on the wearing of face coverings in all schools. This now applies to the following areas of the school, for both students and staff:

- In all lessons
- Movement between all classes
- During break and lunchtime, when indoors and not eating
- When outdoors and not keeping a 2-metre social distance
- On all forms of school transport

Students are expected to watch the World Health Organisation (WHO) video which advises on how to put on, wear and remove a face mask correctly. A link to this video can be found below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Tv2BVN_WTk

It would be advisable for your child to bring at least two facemasks/face coverings with them, in separate sealable bags. This is because the wearing of wet/damp or dirty facemasks/face coverings is not recommended, so having at least one spare facemask/face covering will ensure your child is well-prepared.

If you believe your child qualifies for exemption from wearing a facemask/face covering, please ensure you notify your child's form tutor in advance. We will supply a lanyard (to wear) to support your child with this exemption. A list of exemption criteria can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-yourown#exemptions>

When arriving at school, Senior Leaders will continue to meet and greet students, guiding them straight to their tutor rooms. Tutors will be waiting for their respective groups to arrive and when they do, students will be asked to sanitise their hands. Students should not be anxious, we will discuss the daily routine (which remains the same as prior to lockdown) and start the day in a reassuring and supportive manner. School expectations will be reinforced and more generally an opportunity gained for students and staff to begin teaching and learning face to face.

We are aware sleep patterns may have changed for some children, so we would encourage a return to normal routines, conducive with school times a week before your child starts back. Linked to this is hydration, students are encouraged to bring a filled clear water bottle with them to support learning - unfortunately, they will not be able to use water fountains around school, as a result of the guidance issued to schools.

Hygiene

Students will continue to be asked to sanitise their hands throughout the day. In our risk assessment, we require all students to bring their own hand sanitiser to school. Hand sanitiser **does not have to be alcohol-free**. A pocket pack of tissues are also required as part of the respiratory hygiene we need to promote (Catch it, Bin it, Kill it). Whilst we require all students to come to school with their own hand sanitiser and tissues every day, we do have provision in every classroom, should students run out of their own supplies during the day.

School bag and equipment

Students will need a sensible school bag and equipment to support their learning (Page 4 of the school planner has an equipment list). Students must keep their school bag with them at all times, the cloakroom area will not be open, but lockers can still be used. In addition, all students should carry two reading books with them (other sensible reading material can be considered, with two books as the minimum). Reading registration continues to be on Monday and Tuesday for Year 8 and Year 9, however Year 10 will be moved to Thursday and Friday, as we continue to promote the joy of reading and supporting literacy within the school; this is one of Mary Webb School and Science College's 'trademarks'.

School transport

Students will continue to be seated in Year Group 'bubbles', with the eldest Year Group 'bubble' (Year 11) sitting at the rear, progressing to the youngest at the front (Year 7). Seating plans have been drawn up prior to lockdown – please discuss the importance of sitting in the correct seat for track and trace purposes. Student must wear face coverings whilst on the bus/taxi.

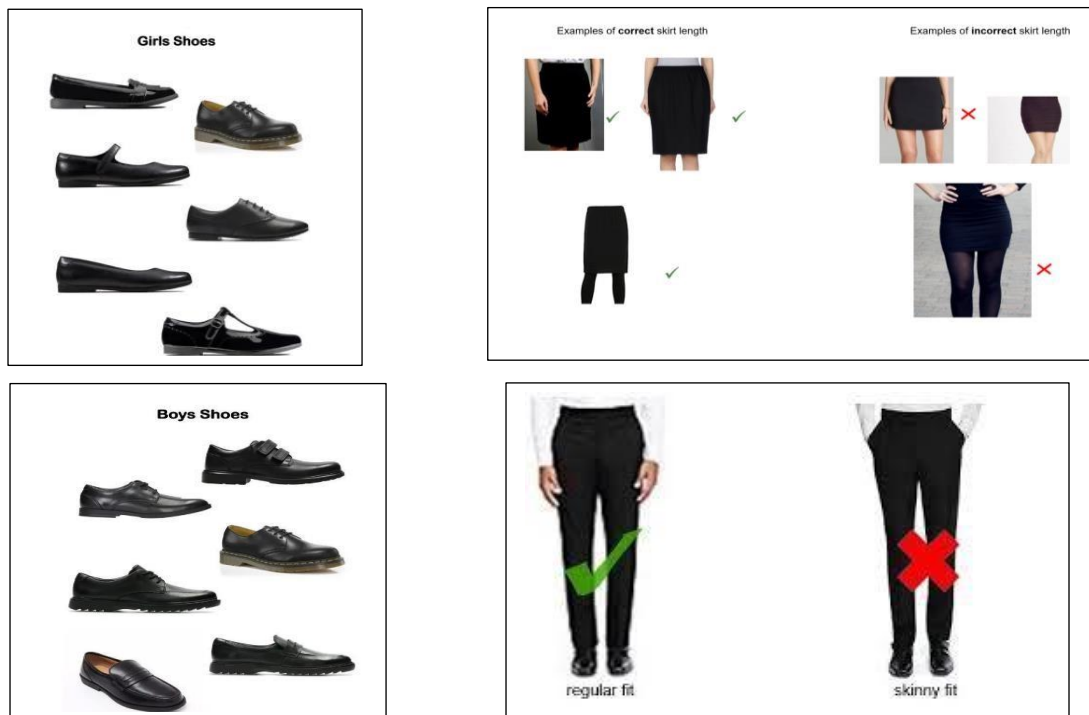
Attendance

As mentioned the school has worked very hard on creating sensible, realistic risk assessments, and making the school safe. We will work with families to secure full attendance for all students. We are happy to speak to parents/carers should concerns remain. If your child or a member of your household shows symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, your child must not attend school, as per government advice (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>). If your child has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), they must stay home for at least 10 days from the first sign of symptoms. If a member of your household has the symptoms, or you've been told by NHS Test and Trace your child has been in contact with someone who has coronavirus (COVID19), your child must stay home for 10 days, from the first sign of symptoms. Current government advice is to get tested, as soon as possible, if symptoms are present. Further information on self-isolation can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolationand-treatment/>

It will help us if you inform us of the result of a coronavirus (COVID-19) test, as this is a crucial part of our engagement with the NHS Test & Trace process.

Uniform

Our expectations regarding uniform remain high:



The vast majority of students wear the correct uniform smartly, taking pride in their appearance. A small minority of students (and parents/carers) were spoken to prior to lockdown, where uniform was not meeting our high expectations. We would appreciate the support of all parents and carers in ensuring their child wears the correct uniform, on our return to school. This applies to school PE uniform as well. If you are unclear on uniform please refer to our school website: <https://www.marywebbschool.com/uniform/>

Finally

Many thanks for your support of Remote Learning during this unprecedented time - students have been working incredibly hard to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding in all their subjects, impressing their teachers with the quality of work produced. The return to learning in school will undoubtedly see the continuation of these endeavours, back in the places we all want them to be – the classrooms of Mary Webb School and Science College.

For more details on how school will operate, please feel free to contact the school with your query. Please contact Miss Pugh for Key Stage 3 queries and Mr Jervis for Key Stage 4 queries.

We are all looking forward to welcoming your child back in the week beginning Monday 8th March – to continue to open their minds and widen their horizons.

Yours sincerely

PJ Lowe-Werrell

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G Davies

Mr G Davies
Deputy Headteacher

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