



1st March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope you are well and that like us, you are looking forward to having The Corsham School fully re-open for all students very soon. There are, however, a significant number of hurdles ahead of us which we really need your help in resolving so that we can meet the target of having all year groups back in lessons in front of their teachers by Thursday 11th March. Thank you for your patience, support and understanding as we manage another complex situation. I know that our whole community will be glad to get back to some sort of normality and I am committed to do this as safely as we can.

Further to my letter of the 23rd February, following the wider re-opening announcements, this letter will just focus on the logistics of your child's return from Monday 8th March so please do read it carefully.

You will know that as part of the wider-reopening guidance all children should have 3 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Covid tests in the first few days of school, prioritising Year's 13 -10, then following on from those 3 tests, they will be given home-testing kits to check themselves twice weekly.

It is important, for the safety of both students and staff, that we re-establish our year group bubbles and all our systems of controls we had in place prior to Christmas as quickly and as safely as we can after March 8th.

We are therefore having a staggered start from March 8th to allow for every student to be screened by receiving their LFD Test 1 (and return a negative result) prior to their return to lessons so children can re-join their year group bubbles as safely as possible.

Thank you to all of you who have so far consented to be part of the voluntary mass testing. If you haven't done so, please follow the link which can be found here: [LFD Online Consent Form](#)

We have had a huge number of returns so far and it is important that our records are correct before we begin the programme from Monday 8th.

On Monday 8th March, 6th Form and Year 11 will be tested and return home, and subject to producing a negative result, they will start lessons first thing the following day on Tuesday March 9th continuing normal school daily from then on. If a positive test result is confirmed, the person concerned has to remain home and self-isolate for the following 10 days.

Years 9 and 10 will return to school to be tested before returning home on Tuesday 9th March, then, subject to a negative test result, start their lessons the following day first thing. So, normal lessons start for Years 9 and 10 on Wednesday March 10th onwards.

On Wednesday March 10th, it is the turn of Years 7 and 8 to be tested before returning home and subject to a negative test result, normal lessons for them will start first thing on Thursday 11th March.

From Thursday March 11th, all students will be back in normal lessons except for when they need to receive their 2 further follow up tests. In the period starting from Thursday March 11th this will involve pupils being taken from their lessons for testing, returning shortly after subject to negative results.

It is important to note that, upon their return to school, all students will continue to follow the same procedures and rules we had in place before lock down:

- They will enter/exit through the same gate as before lockdown and line up in the same
- Use the same bubble classrooms and break/lunch break out zones as before
- Have the same uniform requirements whereby its normal full uniform, with PE kit to be worn on PE days and lots of layers encouraged due to the need to continue keeping rooms well ventilated.
(We will take a mindful and considerate approach in relation to parents who have been unable to purchase new uniform during the lockdown period and, where this is the case, we encourage parents to contact their child’s tutor in the first instance).
- The expectation remains that face coverings must now be worn by pupils at all times when inside, when moving around the premises outside between lessons and at the start/end of the day where social distancing cannot easily be maintained, especially in the narrow alleyways around school, and when on school or public transport.
 - Mask can be removed when:
 - Students are eating or drinking
 - Students are outside at break and/or lunch on the field/playground where social distancing can be maintained.
 - Students are engaged in physical activity as part of PE lessons

The following infographic sums up the information above:

Dates of LFD test 1 (When Students come into school for their test and return home immediately afterwards):

	Monday	Tuesday	Weds	Thurs	Friday
	March 8 th	March 9 th	March 10 th	March 11 th	March 12 th
6th Form	Covid Test 1	Normal school			
Year 11	Covid Test 1	Normal school			
Year 10	Remote Learning	Covid Test 1	Normal school		
Year 9	Remote Learning	Covid Test 1	Normal school		
Year 8	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Covid Test 1	Normal school	
Year 7	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Covid Test 1	Normal school	

Testing is voluntary and students not undergoing testing should return to school in line with our arrangements, above. For example, if a Year 8 student is not participating in testing their first day back at school will be Thursday 11th March.

Our Covid Test Centre is located in the H block Gym and has a limited capacity for the number of tests it can deal with in any given hour.

When students come to school for their first test, the system will be parent drop off in Springfield car park at the allocated time. Students will be welcomed by Senior staff at the H block blue gate next to the all-weather pitch. Students will then be directed to the H block playground to line up for their test, then once completed, students return to the Springfield car park for pick up to return home. Test results will be communicated with via the mobile number and email provided within the consent form and these will come directly from the NHS Covid19 Test Result Notification. No school uniform is required to be worn on the day of the first test. Normal school uniform for students will resume from their first full day back in school.

Students walking to school for their test, must remember that we are still officially in lockdown. It is really important that behaviour is sensible and in line with the Government guidance.

Administering the test should only take 5 minutes but please allow approximately between 15 and 30 minutes for your LFD Test 1 Appointment.

To ensure a steady flow of people and to allow for social distancing, it is very important that you respect the times given for each Tutor group and that you arrive in the Springfield car park 5 minutes before your allocated slot and not before. We may struggle to accommodate late arrivals. May we respectfully remind parents that social distancing in the car park continues to be compulsory.

To support students with taking their LFD Test more information, including a video, will be communicated later this week.

The times for each Tutor group's LFD 1st Test are given in the table below.

Appointment times for LFD Test 1

Time	Monday 8 th March	Tuesday 9 th March	Weds 10 th March
8.30 am.	Tutor Groups 11b1, 11b2	Tutor Groups 10f1, 10f2	Tutor Groups 8s1, 8s2
9.00 am.	11f1, 11f2	10h1, 10h2	8h1, 8f1
9.30 am.	11h1	10s1	8b1
10.00 am.	11h2	10s2	8b2
10.30 am.	11s1	10b1	8f2
11.30 am.	6s1, 6s2, 6s3	9h1, 9h2	7f1, 7f2
12.00	6h1, 6h2, 6h3	9s1, 9b2	7b1, 7b2
12.30 pm.	6b1	9f1	7h1
1.30 pm.	6b2, 6f1	9s2	7h2
2.00 pm.	6f2	9b1	7s1

The second tests after Wednesday march 10th will follow the pattern indicated below. Students will come out of their normal lessons during the day and return as soon as possible after their tests, keeping disruption to learning at a minimum.

We will contact you immediately if their 2nd or 3rd test result is positive as you will be required to collect your child straight away. They will not be allowed to return home on public transport. Please note that following a positive LFD test result you will not be required to get a confirmatory PCR test.

If the presence of COVID -19 is detected within school following a positive LFD test result, the student 'bubble' will be requested to self-isolate for 10 days in the same way as a confirmed student case from a PCR test. You will be notified accordingly.

Dates for LFD Tests 2 and 3 (When students are in school and will come out of their normal lessons for their test and will return to lessons afterwards):

	Thursday 11th	Friday 12th	Monday 15 th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th
C6th	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 3	Normal School	Normal School
Year 11	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School
Year 10	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 3	Normal School
Year 9	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 3	Normal School
Year 8	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 3
Year 7	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 2	Normal School	Normal School	Come out of lessons for Test 3

Please note that school transport will resume week commencing 9th March.

It is really important that you continue to inform us if your child tests positive, is self-isolating or symptomatic and contact the school via Attendance@corsham.wilts.sch.uk

As we prepare to welcome all our students back, communication between home and school remains as important as ever, and I do hope that both you and your children will feel able to contact us at any time if you need to.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible as soon as we safely can.

Look after yourselves and those around you.

Take care,



Rod Bell
Headteacher