



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well and that you are looking forward to a safe and relaxing Christmas break at the end of a very busy and eventful term.

I wrote to you last week about the end of term arrangements and that we will be finishing school on Thursday 16th December at 12.15pm.

I now wanted to explain to you the processes around the start of next term in line with the government requirement to test students once on their return after the Christmas break.

January Return to School – From Wednesday 5th January

Tuesday 4th January is an inset day meaning that no students are expected to be in school on this day. This means that the student testing will begin on Wednesday 5th January.

As with previous occasions where testing has taken place students will come to school to be tested and then return home. It is expected that all students come to school in their **full school uniform** for the testing.

If students test negative, then they will come back into school on the following school day. Any student who tests positive will be contacted by the school to discuss next steps.

Consent for Testing

As with previous rounds of testing in March and September 2021, we must have consent for the student to be able to take part in the tests. If a student does not have consent then they will be sent home on the day with a letter to get signed and return before being tested. We will not test any student where we do not have consent.

If you have already signed the consent form that was completed for the previous rounds of testing then you do not need to sign it again. If you have not signed the consent form previously, wish to change your mind or you are the parent or carer of a student who joined us after testing, please sign the consent form using the link here:

<https://forms.gle/SSAPDYqGAjcTi1UJ8>

Under guidance, students will self-administer the test themselves. This is a nose only swab and processing of these tests will be conducted at a dedicated testing site in the school with results available in around 30 minutes. If the lateral flow test result is negative, the parent will not be contacted and a result will be sent to the student's school e-mail address. If the test is positive we will contact you.

The two Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) will not be compulsory. However, we strongly recommend that students undertake the tests in order to ensure that we are keeping the students, staff and families at Heron Hall safe. Students will then be asked to take two tests at home every week.

We would also advise that following government advice over the new COVID-19 variant that students continue to test twice per week over the holidays. After each Lateral Flow Test taken at home students need to upload this information to the NHS website and the school upload form which can be found here:

<https://forms.gle/22ourVNe2hivREM79>

Testing Arrangements

Year Group	Test Date (Come into school to test and return home)	First Day of Lessons (If negative / not testing)
7	Wednesday 5 th January	Thursday 6 th January
8	Friday 7 th January	Monday 10 th January
9	Thursday 6 th January	Friday 7 th January
10	Thursday 6 th January	Friday 7 th January
11	Wednesday 5 th January	Thursday 6 th January

We are only able to process two year groups per day in the testing centre and therefore we need to prioritise the return of certain year groups.

Please see the timings below for specific timings for each form on the above days.

Year Group & Date	Specific Timings
Year 7 (Wednesday 5 th January)	7E, 7Q, 7U – 9.30-10.30am 7A, 7L – 10.30am-11.15am 7I, 7T, 7Y – 11.30am-12.30pm
Year 8 (Friday 7 th January)	8E, 8Q, 8U – 9.30-10.30am 8A, 8L – 10.30am-11.15am 8I, 8T, 8Y – 11.30am-12.30pm
Year 9 (Thursday 6 th January)	9E, 9Q, 9U – 9.30-10.30am 9A, 9L – 10.30am-11.15am 9I, 9T, 9Y – 11.30am-12.30pm
Year 10 (Thursday 6 th January)	10E, 10Q, 10U, 10A – 1.15pm-2.15pm 10L, 10I, 10T, 10Y – 2.15pm-3.15pm
Year 11 (Wednesday 5 th January)	All students between 1.15pm-3.15pm

Yours Sincerely,



Mr A Barzey
Headteacher