

"Leaders, staff and governors share a passionate commitment to raise the aspirations and achievement of all the students who attend the school."
Ofsted

Thursday 25th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer



I hope you and your families are well.

I have no doubt you will all have heard about the full re opening of schools from March 8th.

We are all very excited to be welcoming students back this half term. I am sure that even though students may be feeling a bit anxious they will also be looking forward to returning to school, seeing their friends and teachers and beginning to have a 'normal' routine again. All staff at President Kennedy are looking forward to seeing the students face to face and re-establishing those all-

important relationships.

I have highlighted below our response to the latest Government guidance for reopening on the 8th March 2021. I hope that after reading this letter you will feel reassured that we have taken every measure possible to ensure the safe return of students and staff.

The Government have announced that Lateral Flow Testing will support the return to face-to-face education to help identify staff and students who are infectious but do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Schools are required to complete 3 in-school tests, 3 to 5 days apart, with the 4th test and those after that being completed at home. Testing remains voluntary at this stage and we have written to all parents asking them to confirm their consent by **Friday 26th February at 3pm**.

You can do this by completing the Survey Monkey consent questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SWH65RG>.

Any queries should be sent to info@pks.coventry.sch.uk.

Please be aware that you will be notified of the test results by NHS Track and Trace to the mobile number and email address that you provide to the school as part of the consent.

In order to support the safe return of students and plan for the testing of up to 1800 students and 200 staff at President Kennedy School, the Government have allowed schools to respond to their local circumstances, (including for example the size of school), and to use the first week back as a phased return. This will allow schools to manage the number of students passing through the test site at any one time. With this in mind, I have taken the decision that from **Monday 8th – Friday 12th March** students will come into school **only for their tests**.

(Please note that children of key workers and those deemed vulnerable can continue to attend full time during the week beginning March 8th)

We aim to complete the first two tests for every student (who have consented) during this one week. Therefore, all students will continue to follow their remote learning timetable at home during this week. This is to ensure the safe and orderly return to school, as well as to allow students to become familiar with the school environment using a phased approach.

At present, we are still waiting for all parents to respond to our request for consent, so I will write to you at the start of next week to inform you of specific arrangements for your child's tests for week commencing 8th March.

All students will return to school on Monday 15th March 2021. This full return will be slightly staggered across the morning of the 15th March, with all students being back in the building by lunchtime at the latest. This will allow as calm and orderly a return as possible. I will confirm specific details and timings next week. Students will attend their normal lessons during this week and their teachers will ensure they support the transition back into the classroom, in order to reassure students and support their well-being. During that week they will be called for their 3rd test on a designated day. They will have to wait in the main hall for the outcome of the test before returning to lessons. Obviously if the test is positive, they will be sent home after parental contact has been made.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Students:

If you have received a letter from your doctor advising that your child has been identified as clinically extremely vulnerable and have been advised to extend the period of shielding, can you please contact your College Director so they can contact you regarding how we will support your child during this period.

Main summary:

Dates	Purpose	Learning
Monday 8 th March – Friday 12 th March 2021	Students come to school on designated days for their tests only. Students will have two tests during that week. Days to be confirmed next week. (children of key workers and those deemed vulnerable in school can continue to attend school full time).	All students will follow their remote learning timetable at home.
Monday 15 th March 2021	All students return to school.	All students will follow their normal timetable.

I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you of the robust measures the school has taken to ensure the safe return of staff and students. The risk assessment which has been in place since reopening in September remains exactly the same for all students and staff. This includes year group bubbles, year group zones, staggered start and finish times, split lunchtimes, specific year group entrances, exits and play areas. All enhanced cleaning routines remain in place and students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing where possible and adhere to a good hand washing /sanitising regime. Their timetables also remain exactly the same, which they have been following for their remote learning at home. **The main change is regarding the wearing of face coverings. All staff and students will be expected, for a transitional period, to wear face coverings (masks) in all communal areas and in classrooms,** unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings.

The risk assessment can be found on our website and is in line with Government and Public Health guidance.

We know that this is a worrying, anxious and exciting time as we all prepare to return to school. We have spent a considerable amount of time discussing how we, as teachers, will respond to the disruption that students have experienced over the last 12 months. Our staff are incredibly skilled and understand the balance that must be maintained for an excellent learning environment; one which supports the child and their family in adapting to the current circumstances as well as supporting the physical, mental and emotional well-being too. We will continue to put students first, focus on the learning and remove any barriers to fully support students and families.

Can I once again thank you for your terrific support in providing home schooling over the last half term and for your emails of kindness and support. If you require further support in preparing for your child's return to school, then please do not hesitate to contact your College Team at school or contact us at info@pks.coventry.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support and please stay safe and healthy.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Clayton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Clayton
Headteacher