



25th February 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

**Full-time return of all students to school for the week beginning:
8th March 2021**

Firstly, I hope that you and your family are well and safe.

Returning to school is vital for children and young people's education and well-being and we are delighted to be welcoming students back. In line with government guidance, Bradgate Sixth Form will begin to re-open the school to all students, in all year groups on a daily basis from Monday 8th March 2021.

Testing

To increase the safety of students and staff and to reduce the risk of transmission within school, the government requires schools to offer Lateral Flow Tests to all students and staff before they return to lessons. School staff will lead the testing, supported by volunteers who have been through a rigorous application process and safety checks. All staff and volunteers have completed required training and gained the appropriate certification. To date we have completed over 450 tests on both students and staff. This has been received very positively and has resulted in a greater sense of security and safety within school.

Although testing is voluntary, in a bid to maintain a safe environment, we would like to test as many students as possible. If you haven't already done so, please may I urge you to complete the online consent form **by 3pm on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 using the link below**. We need the information by this time to organise appointment times and register tests.

[Here is the link to the Consent Form for Lateral Flow Testing](#)

Students will be offered their initial test in the week beginning Monday 8th March 2021. Due to numbers being tested, it is necessary to stagger the testing of students and their return to lessons. The table below shows the testing days and return to school dates for Year 12 & 13 students:

Testing Days and Returning to school dates for each Year group					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11.45am -12.15pm	Year 13 students in 16AK, 16KLe and 16AR	Year 12 students in 16AK and 16AR		All students in Years 12 & 13 in school as normal	All students in Years 12 & 13 in school as normal
12.15pm -12.45pm	Year 13 students in 16LSt, 16LWi and 16SPo	Year 12 students in 16SPo and 16KLe			
12.45pm – 1.15pm		Year 12 students in 16LSt and 16LWi			
Return to school (Dates for all students in each year group)		All of Year 13 return to school at 8.45am	All of Year 12 return to school at 8.45am		

Bradgate Sixth Form students will come to school for a test on the day before they return to school (please refer to the table above for your time slot) and then go home once the test has been done. Students from all years will complete a second test whilst they are in school the following week.

Students who do not have consent for Lateral Flow Testing should remain at home on the testing day and return to school for lessons with the rest of their year group the following day.

Online work will continue to be set for those days that students are not present in school.

Any individuals who receive a positive test result will need to self-isolate according to government guidelines. We will contact parents where this is the case.

Safety protocols and mask wearing in school

Our safety protocols and systems in school will remain as they were in the autumn term. The school day will be condensed slightly to allow for thorough cleaning of the school and a daily testing slot between 2.30pm and 3pm where any member of the school staff can request a Lateral Flow Test. Students will leave school at 2.30pm.

Whereas previously the government guidance required students to wear a face mask when moving around inside school but not in classrooms, the updated expectation is that students will now be required to also wear face masks in the classroom for the duration of the lesson. We appreciate that some students may find this uncomfortable and difficult and we will take a supportive approach in these situations.

Students who are exempt from wearing a face mask for medical reasons will not be required to do so. If this is the case, and we are not already aware, please may I request that parents contact us and provide the required evidence. Please send these details to admin@bradgatesixthform.com the attention of: Karen Stirk, Student Manager.

Provision for children of critical workers and invited students

Our provision for children of critical workers and invited students will end on Friday 5th of March to allow for a natural break before the full-time return of all students.

Catering

Students will be required to bring a packed lunch & drink as there will not be any catering provision up until the Easter break. We hope to be able to offer a full service after Easter. Packed lunches will be provided for Free School Meal students. Students will continue to stay onsite during break time and lunch time and will have access to an outdoor area.

Buses

The Village bus and the Birstall, Rothley, Mountsorrel & Sileby bus will recommence their service from Monday 15th March. Details will be sent out to parents separately regarding the payment schedule.

Yours sincerely

Tim Marston
Headteacher