

RCK/SD

1st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re. Returning to college

This letter includes:

- Details of the return to college
- COVID lateral flow testing appointments and procedures
- Information on how we can work together to ensure a safe and smooth return

As previously advised, to speed up the return to college, Y11 will be tested on **Sunday, 7th March**. The appointments are as follows:

Arrival Time	Surnames
09:00	A-B
09:30	C-E
10:00	F-J
10:30	K-M
11:00	N-R
11:30	S-Z

Arrival for test

Students will arrive at the sports hall on Gamble Avenue at their allocated appointment time with their bar-coded registration card (included with this letter). The appointments have been set to ensure we have a steady flow. We are unable to accommodate changes to appointment times.

Travelling to and from college

Students must follow the Government COVID rules and not meet up with others before or after their appointment. We have informed PC Kate and her colleagues of the appointments taking place this Sunday; however, students must protect themselves and their families by following the rules.

The test

Students currently in school have been taking these tests since January and have had no issues with the procedure. The actual test is very quick, however, the mobile phone set up can take a



few minutes. It is possible to register the day before the test is taken, so to speed the up the process, please support your child to complete this task. There is a 'how to guide' on the 'return to college' section of the Cowley website. **The testing site code is CICT.**

Monday Morning

If the lateral flow test on Sunday is negative, college starts at 8:30 on Monday, 8th March. Normal lessons will start following some information from Mr Dickinson and Mrs Dawber. Y10 students will be arriving for their test on Monday morning, therefore students will need to keep their distance from all other students arriving to college. As we have mentioned in other communication, please ensure students have the correct uniform and equipment ready.

What if students currently have COVID symptoms or are isolating?

If anyone has COVID symptoms they must not come for a test at Cowley. A PCR test must be booked with the NHS. If your family is currently isolating due to a case of COVID, then students should not attend college until that period of isolation is complete. In both these cases, please contact the year team to inform them.

What if someone in the household is confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable?

The Department for Education has stated that attendance for all students is mandatory. The only exception to this is for any student who is confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable. If your child is confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable, they are advised not to attend school until further notice. Any student living in a household with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable are required to attend school.

Do students need to wear uniform for the Sunday test?

Students are not required to wear uniform on Sunday; however, a face covering should be worn at all times inside the building. Full uniform is required from Monday which includes a face covering. [Parent-Checklist.pdf \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](https://www.cowley.st-helens.sch.uk/parent-checklist.pdf)

Can I attend the test with my child?

We must keep the number of people in the testing area to a minimum and therefore parents should wait on Gamble Avenue. Please avoid contact with other families.

Does my child need to bring anything to the appointment?

The bar-coded registration card which has been registered as per the 'how to guide' on the Cowley website the previous day.

Yours sincerely,

R Cormack

Mr Cormack

Headteacher