

RCK/SD

1<sup>st</sup> 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

The Y9 appointments take place on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March** and times are as follows:

Arrival Time	Surnames
8:30	Students who are currently attending college as part of the key worker cohort  plus surnames <b>A-C</b>
9:00	<b>D-H</b>
9:30	<b>I-P</b>
10:00	<b>Q-Z</b>

### 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 college

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

### Travelling to college by bus

It would be ideal for students to keep to their appointment time, if there is another option for transport to college on this day it would be helpful. If this is not the case, then we will supervise your child at school until their appointment.



### **The test**

Students currently in college 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.**

### **What happens after the test?**

The result will take about 30 minutes to come through. Your child will be supervised and socially distanced until the negative test comes through. If the lateral flow test is negative lessons will start following some information from Mr Dickinson and Mr Middleton. If the test is positive, then the college will contact you to collect your child and take them for an NHS COVID PCR test.

### **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.

### **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 cannot attend the testing centre on college premises. Please avoid contact with other families when dropping your child off.

### **Does my child need to bring anything to the appointment?**

Full uniform, 2 face coverings, all college equipment on the checklist [Parent-Checklist.pdf \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](https://www.cowley.st-helens.sch.uk) and the bar-coded registration card which has been registered as per the 'how to guide' on the Cowley website the previous day will be required.

Yours sincerely,

*R Cormack*

Mr Cormack

Headteacher