

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

A Leading Edge Technology & Applied Learning College

Mill Lane, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, NE31 2ET

Telephone: 0191 428 2700



Email: Office@stjosephs.uk.net

Web: www.stjosephs.uk.net

Fax: 0191 428 4053

Headteacher: Mr P Mitchell

Chair of Governors: Mrs G Kilgour

26-02-2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sure you will be aware that the government has announced this week that schools will reopen from 8th March.

As part of this process at secondary level, all students will be offered three lateral flow tests, in school, 3-5 days apart. This is to aid with the detection of asymptomatic Covid cases. Once each pupil has had 3 tests in school, they will be provided with home-testing kits and instructions to carry out their tests twice-weekly at home.

To allow for the roll-out of testing alongside the reopening of school for face-to-face teaching, students will return on a phased basis during the week beginning 8th March. The most recent government guidance states that Years 10 to 13 should be prioritised in this process and this is reflected in the plan outlined below. In order to reduce the amount of time pupils are out of school, we will begin to offer testing on Thursday 4th March as outlined in the table below.

In summary, pupils will return to school on a staggered basis. This phased return is necessary in order to facilitate the roll-out of LFD testing for those students that we have consent for and allowing for a gap of 3-5 days between tests. You should have received a GroupCall message from school to offer you the opportunity to give consent for your child.

Date	First LFD test		Return to lessons full time Normal school day
Thursday 4 th March	Year 11	Year 12	Monday 8 th March
Friday 5 th March	Year 10	Year 13	Monday 8 th March
Monday 8 th March	Year 7		Tuesday 9 th March
Wednesday 10 th March	Year 8	Year 9	Thursday 11 th March

For the first LFD test, students will come to school during a designated time-period and return home once tested. Your son or daughter's test time will be communicated from Monday 1st March. Remote learning will remain in place for pupils until their return to lessons full time.

Please note, students do not have to consent to the test to return to school. Anyone who is not receiving an LFD test should return to lessons as outlined above in the final column.

Parents/Carers: Stay Alert. Keep your child at home if they have Covid-19 symptoms. Stay Safe.

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

A Leading Edge Technology & Applied Learning College

Mill Lane, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, NE31 2ET

Telephone: 0191 428 2700



Email: Office@stjosephs.uk.net

Web: www.stjosephs.uk.net

Fax: 0191 428 4053

Headteacher: Mr P Mitchell

Chair of Governors: Mrs G Kilgour

The three in-school LFD tests will be scheduled on the following dates:

	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
04-03-21	Year 11, Year 12		
05-03-21	Year 10, Year 12		
08-03-21	Year 7	Year 12, Year 13	
09-03-21		Year 11, Year 10	
10-03-21	Year 8, Year 9		
11-03-21		Year 7	Year 12, Year 13
12-03-21			Year 11, Year 10
15-03-21		Year 8, Year 9	
16-03-21			Year 7
18-03-21			Year 8, Year 9

Sixth Form follow-up tests may need to take place after 3:00pm.

Please note that LFD tests 2 and 3 will take place within the school day, as far as possible, and will be carried out as part of their lesson time.

Further details around the reopening of school from the 8th March will be shared from Monday, 1st March.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Mitchell

Headteacher

Parents/Carers: Stay Alert. Keep your child at home if they have Covid-19 symptoms. Stay Safe.