

Our Ref: SLT/FSC-2602WSL

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### Parental Guidance for Reopening

It's been a busy week dissecting the government's guidance and deciding how we can make it work at Baysgarth, ensuring all students are back learning as quickly as possible.

The biggest hurdle is the testing of students for Coronavirus in school. Students are not allowed to return to their lessons until they have had a test and that test has proven to be negative. For this reason, no school will be able to open up again to everyone on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, a fact the government has recognised by stating in the guidance that schools have a week to stagger the return of students.

We don't want to waste any time, so we are planning to carry out our tests as quickly as possible and return students into lessons as soon as possible. You'll see some of our literature and social media messages about #everydaycounts and we want to smash all of our attendance records by getting every one of our students back into school in the week beginning the 8<sup>th</sup> March. **Every student will be back in school and following their normal timetable by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.** Here's what we plan to do:

#### Remote Learning

The final set of remote learning activities that require a Chromebook or laptop to complete will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Activities set for the next week will be online but will not require online work to be submitted. This is to support the school with ...

#### Return of Baysgarth Laptops and Chromebooks

We have lent out pretty much all of our laptops and Chromebooks to support families during lockdown. Almost 150 have been distributed and this means we now have no laptops or Chromebooks available for our teachers to use during lessons. **Therefore, we need these devices to be brought back into school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> or Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March.** They will be checked, sanitised, charged and returned to our laptop trolleys so that our teachers can use them in lessons from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. If you have borrowed a device, you need to return the device and charger on one of these two days. Families can keep the internet dongles and SIM cards that we have distributed as internet access will still be needed for the activities we set from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> onwards - these activities can be accessed via tablets, phones, PlayStation/X-Boxes etc.

#### Timetable

The timetable will run as usual from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and once students have had their test and the result has come back as negative. The school day will revert to normal times with a 2.40pm finish. Students will be in their year group tutor groups as they were before Christmas - we're still not allowed to mix bubbles so we can't yet move to our vertical tutor groups. **Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March is a Week B.**

## Transport

School buses will run as usual from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Students must keep to the seating plans in place from before Christmas. Students must wear masks throughout their bus journey before and after school.

## Uniform

Students will be expected to revert to the uniform regulations in place before Christmas. Full uniform must be worn every day. When students have PE, they will still need to come to school in their PE kit and the blazer is compulsory over the PE kit, as was the case before Christmas.

## Masks

You will have seen from the media that **masks are now compulsory in classrooms as well as communal areas in schools from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March until Easter**. The guidance is clear that this has to be a mask and that visors or face shields are not appropriate alternatives. All students are expected to come to school with a mask and to wear that mask during lessons and when transitioning around the school. The only times they will be able to take their mask off are:

- When walking or cycling to and from school
- In outside spaces at break and lunchtime
- When sitting down and eating in one of our canteens
- Specific lessons such as PE/Drama/Dance

Students that have already been identified as being exempt from wearing a mask will not be required to wear a mask from 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Students who forget to bring their mask will need to visit Student Support and parents will be charged for any masks we distribute, as was the case before Christmas.

## Hygiene and Infection Control

All the critical infection control procedures that we have in school will still be in place when all students return. It's absolutely imperative that all students and staff on site follow these key rules:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as often as possible, at least every break and lunchtime and after every toilet visit.
- When it's not possible to wash hands, make sure you use hand sanitiser. This is available in every classroom and at every entrance to the school.
- Be outside at break and lunchtimes, other than when queueing for or eating food in the canteens.
- Wipe down tables, chairs and equipment at the end of every lesson.
- Bring in and use your own equipment pack that we distributed free before Christmas - don't share equipment with others.

## Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing and Staggered Student Return

Every student for whom we have consent has to be tested three times in school over the first fortnight from 8<sup>th</sup> March. After these three tests have been completed in school, the responsibility switches to parents to complete the tests at home with their child. At this point students will be issued with two home testing kits every week and parents will be given plenty of information about how to carry out the tests. Don't worry about this - we'll be writing to you again about what this involves but for now we need to focus on the return to school.

The testing timetable in school is as follows and more detail for how this affects each individual year group's return to school is detailed below:

Date	Year Group(s) LFD Tested
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 and Year 11
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 and Year 9
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 and Year 11
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 and Year 9
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 and Year 11
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 and Year 9

### Vulnerable and Critical Worker Students already in school full time

This group of over 100 students will have their three school-based Coronavirus (LFD) tests before everyone else (26<sup>th</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March), so from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March they will return to their normal timetable from Period 1 at 8.30am. All these students should be in school and follow their timetabled lessons.

Those vulnerable and critical worker students who are only in part time at the moment and are not in school Monday or Friday next week, will follow the guidelines below for their testing programme.

### Year 10 & Year 11 Students

Students in Year 11 and Year 10 who travel to school on the school buses or via a taxi, and who have consent to have their LFD test in school, should come into school as normal on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.

Students will be tested as soon as they arrive in school, so they should go straight into school once they have exited buses. Once students have had their test, they will be held in the canteen or in a PE space, until it has been confirmed that the test result is negative. Then, students will go to their usual lessons at that point. It may take up to three hours to test all students, so we ask that students are patient and suggest they perhaps bring a book to read.

Students in Year 11 or Year 10 who travel to school by foot, private transport, or by bike, should come into school for their LFD test at the time indicated below, depending upon the first letter of your surname. Students will be tested and will then go straight back home again. On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, students will come into school as normal and attend all usual lessons. Students will be in school from this point onwards, but will have to take another test on the Thursday and following Tuesday.

	8.00 – 10.30am	11.30am – 12.00pm	12.00 – 12.30pm	1.15 – 1.45pm	1.45 – 2.15pm	2.15 – 2.45pm
Monday (Y10/11)	Bus	Year 10 A-D	Year 10 E-O	Year 10 P-W	Year 11 A-J	Year 11 K-W

Students in Year 10 and 11 where consent has not been given for the school to carry out an LFD test, must stay at home on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and then come into school for their usual timetabled lessons from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. If you want to give consent but haven't done so yet, you can give it by following the link [here](#).

### Year 7 Students

Students in Year 7 who travel to school on the school buses or taxis, and who have consent to have their LFD test in school, should come into school as normal on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March**.

Students will be tested as soon as they arrive in school, so they should go straight into school once they have exited buses. Once students have had their test, they will be held in the canteen or in a PE space, until it has been confirmed that the test result is negative. Then, students will go to their usual lessons at that point. It may take up to three hours to test all students, so we ask that students are patience and suggest they perhaps bring a book to read.

Students in Year 7 who travel to school by foot, private transport, or by bike, should come into school for their LFD test at the time indicated below, depending upon the first letter of your surname. Students will be tested and will then go straight back home again. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March, students will come into school as normal and attend all usual lessons. Students will be in school from this point onwards, but will have to take another test on the Friday and following Wednesday.

	8.00 – 10.30am	11.30am – 12.00pm	12.00 – 12.30pm	1.15 – 1.45pm	1.45 – 2.15pm	2.15 – 2.45pm
Tuesday (Year 7)	Bus	A-C	D-G	H-L	M-R	S-Z

Students in Year 7 where consent has not been given for the school to carry out an LFD test, must stay at home on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March and then come into school for their usual timetabled lessons from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March. If you want to give consent but haven't done so yet, you can give it by following the link [here](#).

### Year 9 and Year 8 Students

Students in Year 8 and Year 9 who travel to school on the school buses or taxis, and who have consent to have their LFD test in school, should come into school as normal on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**.

Students will be tested as soon as they arrive in school, so they should go straight into school once they have exited buses. Once students have had their test, they will be held in the canteen or in a PE space, until it has been confirmed that the test result is negative. Then, students will go to their usual lessons at that point. It may take up to three hours to test all students, so we ask that students are patience and suggest they perhaps bring a book to read.

Students in Year 8 or Year 9 who travel to school by foot, private transport, or by bike, should come into school for their LFD test at the time indicated below, depending upon the first letter of your surname. Students will be tested and will then go straight back home again. On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, students will come into school as normal and attend all usual lessons. Students will be in school from this point onwards, but will have to take another test on the following Monday and Thursday.

	8.00 – 10.30am	11.30am – 12.00pm	12.00 – 12.30pm	1.15 – 1.45pm	1.45 – 2.15pm	2.15 – 2.45pm
Wednesday (Year 8/9)	Bus	Year 8 A-D	Year 8 E-L	Year 8 M-Z	Year 9 A-H	Year 9 J-Z



Students in Year 8 and Year 9 where consent has not been given for the school to carry out an LFD test must stay at home on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March and then come into school for their usual timetabled lessons from Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March. If you want to give consent but haven't done so yet, you can give it by following the link [here](#).

### Other Points to Note

#### Year 11 Assessment

There have been lots of announcements here this week and we will be writing to our Year 11 students and parents next week with more details of what this means for them.

#### Chromebook Leasing Scheme

The Chromebooks have arrived in school today. **Parents and carers can come and collect these from the Main Reception from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March during school hours.** You will receive the Chromebook in its original box and the carry case will be given to you separately when you come to the Main Reception. Any Chromebooks not handed over to parents will be handed to the student when they return to school, but please be aware the boxes are bulky and difficult to carry, so we would prefer parents to collect rather than issue to the students. If you have borrowed one of the Baysgarth Chromebooks, please return this at the same time to avoid extra trips.

#### Year 8 Options

Once all students are back, we will restart our Options process. The first stage of this will be our Options Fair. This will take place on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March** once all of the LFD tests in school have been completed. More details will be sent out separately by Mr North.

#### After School Clubs


These will resume (by year group so that we do not mix bubbles) from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. We will not be running late buses before Easter. For the latest details of the clubs that we will be running, please check our website or social media pages.

#### Attendance Support

You will have read in the media various stories about 'gimmicks' that are aimed to support students with their learning, such as after school and summer school clubs. We all know as a community that the biggest factor that will make a difference to our children's learning is being in school all of the time, taught by trained professionals and supported by a brilliant inclusion team that knows each student really well. Our pastoral team is currently making phone calls, having virtual and face-to-face meetings with parents and children to work together so that every member of our community is back in school by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March. We all have a collective responsibility to make sure that once schools reopen our children are back in them, learning and safeguarding their futures. We can all play a part in this. If you have any concerns about your child wanting to return to school, please contact us for support - let's see if we can get 'All In'.

We can't wait to have everyone back in school! In the meantime, take care and have a lovely weekend!

Yours faithfully

  
Richard Briggs  
Head Teacher