

Aylesford School

and Sixth Form College



Emailed Friday 5 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for the overwhelming response we have had in consenting for your child/ren to undertake the lateral flow tests, this assists us greatly in keeping our school and wider community as safe as possible during these challenging times.

We are very much looking forward to the return of all our students to school, Monday 8 March 2021. Below I have indicated some reminders which may prove useful to remind yourselves of ahead of the return of your child/ren to school Monday 8 March 2021.

- Students must bring their own equipment to school, a named water bottle or bottle of water, hand sanitizer, and for years 7 to 9, a reading book. It will not be possible for your son or daughter to share any items of equipment during the school day.
- Any appointments for your child must not be made during the school day. We will not be able to accommodate students leaving partway through the day and then returning to school. Please ensure any appointments are made **before** the school start time or at the **end** of their school day.
- Students will not be allowed home for lunch and you should make appropriate arrangements to cater for them in school, by using the refectory or sending them in with a packed lunch.
- Our caterers, as before, will not be accepting cash for food purchased at school. Payments should be managed by ParentPay. Please note that AIP our school meal providers are unable to provide any meals unless there is credit on your child/ren(s) account. Please ensure you have adequate funds on your child's account prior to their return to school.
- We politely remind you that it is a parent(s)/carer(s) responsibility to report any absence to the school. You can do so by emailing attendance@aylesfordschool.org.uk or by telephone 01926 747100 and selecting option 1, and option 1 again for secondary or option 2 for Primary attendance – Please ensure that in the case of any absence this is reported before 9.00am. Please listen to the prompts and leave the required information.
- We are informed that public transport will be operating, however, our strong advice is that students come to school by either foot or by bike where possible. If you are bringing your child to school by car please do **not** use our car park as a drop off point, please drop off nearby our school grounds.
- Sixth Form students **must not** park in the school car park.
- There will be no public access across our site at any time, this includes parents of our Primary School phase.
- The school will be closed to **all** visitors, including parents, except in exceptional circumstances and then **only** by a pre-agreed appointment. Please do not arrive on site to see any teacher or member of staff.
- The school will not be providing any before or after school clubs during these times, nor can the library be accessed before or after school.
- Please do not drop off any items for your child during the school day as we will not be able to facilitate the handling of any items and will not be able to get this to your child during the school day.
- Please be aware that we will not be able to get messages from parents during the school day to students as we are unable to infiltrate year bubbles and will not have office runners available to us. Please ensure that any communication is done before or after school via an agreed communication source.
- Please do ensure that we have the most up to date contact information for you, so that we can contact you in case of any emergencies.

Facemasks

We are currently following the guidance published by the Department for Education regarding the wearing of masks in school. As a result, at present **we strongly recommend that all** staff and students wear a mask whilst on site unless you have a medical exemption and a lanyard/card communicating this. These measures are to ensure the safety of the students, staff and the wider community for continuity of students' education, so that we can minimise the spread and keep our students in school. Please ensure that your child attends schools with a facemask each day.

<https://www.aylesfordschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=4961&type=pdf>

School Uniform

We expect all students to attend in their school uniform. On days when they have timetabled PE lessons they are allowed to come to school in the appropriate kit worn under their school blazer. If preferred, students are permitted to wear either tracksuit bottoms or base layers in blue or black.

Behaviour Policy

The school has always expected very high standards of behaviour from our students and this has not changed. However, the new arrangements will require some alterations to the way in which we respond to those rare occasions where our expectations are not met. It is essential that students understand the need to co-operate with staff as any behaviour that places the safety of our school community at risk will not be tolerated. Our behaviour policy has been amended to recognise the fact that the school will not tolerate any behaviour that places, or potentially places other members of the school at risk of infection. This can be viewed on our school website under our policy section.

Lateral Flow Retest Schedule

Please find attached a 'return to school' reminder schedule of when your child/ren will have tests 2 and 3. Please be aware that all support staff are being used to assist with the facilitation of these tests, so communication responses may be delayed.

Your child/ren will have returned home with a letter which has their barcode numbers for test 2 and test 3. Wherever possible we recommend that you pre-register the test 24 hours prior to the day that your child is being re-tested. This will enable you to receive the test result approximately 30 minutes after the test has been carried out. If you are unable to register prior to the test, please ensure that you register as soon as they return home.

Yours faithfully

Tim Hodgson
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