

24 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, thank you to those of you who completed our survey. The responses were overwhelmingly positive and supportive of our work, which was delightful to read. Mr Beere will create a summary of your views and share this with you shortly.

You will be aware that all secondary schools should begin welcoming back students during the week commencing Monday 8th March and all students back by Monday 15th March.

More detail emerged on Monday evening relating to a series of measures we need to take, in addition to our current rigorous infection control measures.

This included clarity on the need for all students and staff to be tested before they return to face to face lessons. This is a pro-active measure to reduce the likelihood of any member of our school community passing the virus to someone else and therefore to reduce the risk of spread across our families and whole town community. This is very different to testing someone who has symptoms and may already have infected other people. Our role in helping to keep our whole town safe is very important and we take this responsibility very seriously.

As you will imagine this provided us with much to discuss and agree. We need a clear plan for the week commencing Monday 8th March to ensure that all students can return to school by the Government deadline of Monday 15th March.

At our Senior Leadership Team meeting on Tuesday, we discussed our initial planning and have been considering various aspects of the plan today. We have a further meeting tomorrow afternoon to finalise this. I will write to you again on Friday to outline the timetable for week commencing Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Our intention is that this will include a schedule to test all students for part of the week, during which time remote learning will continue for all students, and therefore allow us to return all students to school by the end of that week as safely as possible.

We cannot wait for all our students and staff to be back at school together.

Thank you so much for your continued support. To date our actions and measures have ensured that all students and staff have remained as safe as possible and it is imperative that we continue to be vigilant to protect students and staff while they are on the Oakmoor site so that we protect ourselves, our families and the wider community.

Yours sincerely



Mr P. Hemmings  
Headteacher