

10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### Wider Reopening from 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. Further to my letter last week and the Parent and Carer Covid-19 Handbook on our website, please find below a summary of the arrangements for our wider reopening of Airedale Academy after Lateral Flow testing this week.

#### Lateral Flow Device Testing for Students

By the end of this week we will have conducted over 1100 tests with our students. We are so very proud of the bravery that they have shown throughout this process. The behaviour and attitude of all students attending for testing has been exemplary! Well done!

#### Return to School

We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back into school. Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 will return on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Years 7, 8 and 9 will return on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March; students will start and finish at the times indicated in the table below. It is important to remember that infection rates of Covid-19 remain relatively high and that there is a certain amount of uncertainty about the transmission of new variants. As a result, the Government has strengthened its guidance, including a system of control measures, which we will be following to reduce the transmission of the virus and to protect our students, staff and the wider community.

We will be returning to the established systems in place in the Autumn Term. **Please note start and finish times for students, as well as their allocated Year Group entry and exit point:**

Year	Arrival Time	Gate	Break	Lunch	Location	Finish Time
Y7	8:30am	Step Out	10:50-11:00am	12:35-1:05pm	Canteen	2:35pm
Y8	8:15am	Library	11:00-11:10am	1:05-1:35pm	Canteen	2:35pm
Y9	8:15am	Main	11:00-11:10am	1:05-1:35pm	Theatre	2:35pm
Y10	8:45am	Main	10:50-11:00am	12:05-12:35pm	Theatre	2:50pm
Y11	8:45am	Library	10:50-11:00am	12:05-12:35pm	Canteen	2:50pm
Y 12 & 13	8:30am	Pedestrian		12:35-1:05pm	Theatre	2:35pm

Please note the changes highlighted in yellow above.

Respect • Ambition • Bravery

**Attendance**

We expect all our students to return to school next week. However, we understand that some students and families may feel anxious about coming back to school. If you feel that your child needs any immediate support in readiness for next week, please contact us via our [info@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:info@airedaleacademy.com) email address.

**Face Coverings**

The latest guidance from the Government (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education>) states that face coverings should be worn in classrooms where social distancing of two metres cannot be maintained. In most lessons, students sit within two metres of each other and, therefore, they will need to wear a face covering in classrooms. The teacher will give permission to remove face coverings if they feel it is safe to do so. Students will not need to wear a face covering in practical PE lessons.

Prior to the current school closure, our students showed a mature and responsible attitude by wearing a face covering as they entered our site, whilst outside at breaks and lunchtimes, on the corridors and when exiting site. This safety measure will continue when we return to school. Students will be allowed to remove their face coverings at break and lunchtime whilst eating and drinking and whilst outside; as stated above face coverings will be worn during lesson times, on corridors and whilst entering and leaving our site.

Classrooms are set up to allow teachers and other adults to maintain two metres social distancing from students and each other, therefore they will not wear a face covering in classrooms. Members of staff will wear a face covering if two metre social distancing cannot be maintained and if they wish to do so as a further safety measure.

If your child has a medical condition, disability or other issue, which prevents the wearing of a face covering as detailed above, please contact their Head of Year before Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March to discuss. If they are eligible for exemption, they will be given a lanyard, which they will need to show to staff.

We are not expecting students to wear face coverings of a specific type or colour but ask that all face coverings are disposable or washable and that scarves and snoods are not worn. The government guidance suggests that it is reasonable to assume that students now have access to face coverings due to their increasing use in wider society. We will retain a stock of masks to give to students without one, the first time this will be free but on subsequent occasions students will be charged £1.

**Uniform**

Students will be expected to return to school in full uniform as per government guidelines. Both of our uniform suppliers have confirmed that they have plenty of stocks of our uniform. Both offer home delivery and Better and Bright who are based in the market are offering a click and collect service. Please contact your child's Head of Year if you need any support with uniform or are experiencing any difficulties.

The links to both suppliers are on this page <https://www.airedaleacademy.com/uniform/>

If families have any used uniform items that they wish to donate to school, please send them with your child next week.

**Respect • Ambition • Bravery**

**Important Safety Measure – Stay at home if unwell**

Please can we remind you not to send your child to school if they are unwell. This is imperative if they **or a member of your household** are showing CoVID-19 symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- Loss or change to the sense of taste or smell

Please arrange a test for the symptomatic person as quickly as possible and keep us informed of the result either by phoning the school on 01977 664555 or by emailing [covid@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:covid@airedaleacademy.com)

**Additional Safety Measure - Home Testing**

We would like to thank those parents/carers who consented to their child taking three lateral flow tests (LFTs) on site. These students will be given a home testing kits next week; further details will follow in due course.

Finally, thank-you for your continued support in very difficult times. I understand that this has been such a difficult time for everyone in our community and we will always support, as ever, if you need us. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us before Monday if you need anything at all.

Yours faithfully



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**Miss L Proctor**  
**Principal**