



Tring School

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23 February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

As you will be aware, last night the Prime Minister outlined the Road Map that would lead to an easing of the current national Coronavirus restrictions. We are delighted with the news that week commencing Monday 8 March, schools will be allowed to open to all students.

The DfE has worked closely with the Department of Health & Social Care and Public Health England to develop guidance for schools on how to implement systems of control to create a safe environment for students and staff whereby the risk of transmission of infection will be substantially reduced. Thus, schools are deemed as safe settings for students if we all take collective responsibility for adhering to basic but crucial safety measures.

We are pleased to share with you the Tring School response to the new guidelines ensuring that all students and staff are able to return to and continue to access face to face teaching safely. Please be mindful that we are a large comprehensive school and we continue to manage a huge range of competing demands to ensure we safely meet the needs of **all** students, as well as those of your own child/ren.

Asymptomatic testing - Rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) will support the return to face-to-face education by helping to identify people who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms. All students and staff are strongly encouraged to take three lateral flow tests as they begin to return to school. A lateral flow test is designed to identify anyone who is asymptomatic and therefore at risk of potentially spreading the virus. If a positive test is recorded, a period of self-isolation for 10 days must be followed. We have a dedicated team of trained staff who have successfully administered over 1500 tests since January 2021 and are now very proficient in this new work.

Outline of the testing schedule - further details and guidance/timings will follow later this week.

	Test 1	Return to school	Test 2	Test 3
Year 12 &13	8/3 am	9/3	11/3 am	16/3 am
Year 11	8/3 pm	9/3	11/3 pm	16/3 pm
Year 10	9/3 am	10/3	12/3 am	17/3 am
Year 9	9/3 pm	10/3	12/3 pm	17/3 pm
Year 8	10/3am	11/3	15/3 am	18/3 am
Year 7	10/3 pm	11/3	15/3 pm	18/3pm

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Home testing - Following on from the initial lateral flow tests conducted in schools, students and staff in secondary schools will be supplied with LFD test kits to self swab and test themselves twice a week at home. Staff and students must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone, as per the instructions in the home test kit. Staff and students should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with their school to help with contact tracing.

School Attendance - will be mandatory for all pupils from the return to school date outline above (8- 11 March 2021).

Remote teaching - Any student who is isolating, shielding or unable to attend school due to COVID-19 is able to access remote teaching. As a minimum, all work will be set on Google classroom and where possible a hangout will be set up to allow students at home to follow a live lesson.

Hygiene - All students are required to bring their own face coverings, hand sanitiser and tissues into school daily. It is recommended that students bring in two face coverings per day which are then washed at the end of the day. Students should place their unused and then used face-covering in a sealed plastic bag. Students will be reminded to wash/sanitise their hands frequently.

Travel and arrival - students should travel directly to and from school, following the current guidelines, avoiding meeting in larger groups. On arrival onto the school site, students should continue to wait in their designated year group areas (see below) before moving safely to form rooms.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12&13
Astroturf	AstroTurf	LRC Quad	MVHC	Netball Court 3	SFC/ LRC

Transport - Students travelling on buses will be required to sanitise their hands before boarding the bus and sit in key stage or family bubbles and wear a face covering at all times. Car shares are currently not permitted under the restriction.

At the end of the day, school buses will be called from the following areas -

Mini Buses	111/117	883	884	885	Wiggington & Aldbury Public Bus
Get straight on bus	Get straight on bus	LRC Quad	Dining Hall	Dining Hall Covered area	LRC

Face coverings - Guidance has been enhanced and all staff and students will be required to wear a face covering at all times whilst indoors, this will include whilst sitting in a classroom as well as moving around inside the school buildings. This new guidance is due to be reviewed again before the start of the summer term.

Exemptions - any staff or student who is exempt from wearing a facial covering or adhering to the one-way system will be clearly identified by a sunflower lanyard. Please speak to your child's Head of House if your child is eligible.

Uniform - normal school uniform, including school shoes, are required every day. Please see the website ['here'](#) to check the uniform requirements. Our uniform shop is fully stocked and items can be purchased in advance of the return to school.

PE Changing -

Years 7-10 - Until Easter 2021, students will be permitted to attend school in their Tring School PE kit on the days that they have a timetabled practical lesson. Tring School Kit includes - Tring School black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, Tring School blue polo shirt, Tring School black hoodie. If students do not possess the correct outer Tring School PE Hoodie, leggings or tracksuit bottoms or kit requires washing, students should attend in normal school uniform and change into Tring School shorts and polo shirt at the start of their timetabled lesson.

Year 11 - only have a number of weeks remaining in compulsory education, therefore, will be permitted to wear black tracksuit bottoms/ leggings and top if they have outgrown their Tring School PE kit.

Any student attending in a non-school PE kit will be sent home to get changed or provided with a second-hand kit to wear.

After Easter, we are hopeful that changing rooms will be fully operational and all students will change into their PE kit at the start of each lesson. I will notify you about this decision at the end of this term.

Classrooms - All classrooms will be well ventilated using open windows and doors; students will sit side by side and facing the front of the classroom. Where possible, teachers will remain at the front of the classroom and 2m away from the students. Students will be assigned a specific seat per lesson to aid identification for any close contact traces.

Following our visit from the NHS on the cleaning systems used within the school, we will continue to use the disinfectant spray recommended by the NHS for desks and seats in classrooms at the lesson changeover.

All students will be asked to sanitise their hands upon arrival and departure of each classroom

Equipment - Students should not share any classroom equipment. Specialist equipment used in Design and Technology, Art, Science and PE will be sanitised thoroughly between class usage.

Tutor time - will resume and students will return to their new key stage groups. Students will be seated in year groups, in a specified seat and will wear a face covering. All Assemblies and Collective Worship will continue to be delivered remotely.

Timings of the day - We continue to follow the new timings of the day, maintaining key stage break and lunchtimes.

	Years 7, 8 & 9	Years 10,11,12 &13
8.40-9.00	Tutor time	Tutor time
9.00 - 10.00	P1	P1

10.00 - 10.30	Breaktime	P2
10.30 - 11.00	P2	
11.00 - 11.30	Breaktime	
11.30 - 12.30	P3	P3
12.30 - 1.00	Lunchtime	P4
1.00 - 1.30	P4	
1.30 - 2.00	Lunchtime	
2.00 - 3.00	P5	P5

Breaktime arrangements - All students will now have access to the Dining Hall at break and lunchtime to purchase food if they wish. Once students have purchased their food items they will then continue their break time in designated year group areas. There is no requirement for students to go to the Dining Hall area unless they wish to purchase food.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12&13
LRC Quad	MVHC	Netball Court 3	MVHC	Netball Court 3	LRC Quad

Unfortunately, students in Year 11 will not be permitted to leave the school site at lunchtime. This will be kept under review and I will inform you of any further changes to this decision at the end of the term.

Extracurricular - Clubs will resume, with details shared once the students return.

Yr 13 and 11 Exams - Further information is expected to be shared on Thursday 25 February. I will write directly to students and parents in these year groups as soon as we receive confirmed arrangements.

Expectations and Conduct - We are so proud of how quickly our students adjusted to the new safety requirements in the Autumn term. Students are expected to continue to adhere to our **one-way system and wear their face coverings at all times**. For students who are consistently unable to ensure the safety of others by meeting these expectations, parents will be requested to attend a meeting and further measures will be taken.

Thank you all for your continued support as we endeavour to get our students back into school as quickly and safely as possible.

Yours faithfully

Sally Ambrose
Head of School