

## HBK Update, Tuesday 9 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We were delighted to see our Year 10 and 11 students back in school today, joining the Sixth Form students who also came back yesterday! And will also look forward to our Year 9, 8 and 7 students joining them once they have completed their first lateral flow test!

### COVID-19 Testing in School – message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

We are very pleased to report that the COVID-19 testing process in school is going very smoothly indeed, with over 90% of the students attending for their first COVID-19 test. Thank you for ensuring that your child arrives at school at the correct time; we are aware that a number of parents/carers have needed to put in place additional specific travel arrangements to facilitate this, and we are very grateful.

On Wednesday, Year 7s and 8s will have their first C-19 test in order that they can return to school on Thursday. **Please can parents ensure that their child knows their home address, post code, their own email address and mobile phone number, as this is needed for the NHS registration process.** Please can your child have this written down somewhere if they are unsure of this information. As the weather is highly likely to be wet, it is essential that they have a coat (and, ideally, an umbrella) as they will need to move around outside between buildings for different parts of the testing process.

Students in all year groups will be collecting their home-test kits after they have completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> test in the Sports Hall. More details regarding how to do the home tests will be sent out in due course.

Thank you so much to our volunteers who are assisting with the testing! They are doing an exceptional job and being so patient and supportive of the students who are learning how to do the self-swabbing process. This is an important skill as it will help ensure more accurate results when the students carry out the tests at home. Please see the photos of our volunteers at the testing stations in the Sports Hall.



## **Break and Lunchtime Arrangements - message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal**

As the students return to school, procedures to mitigate against COVID-19 remain as important as ever, such as the wearing of face coverings, social-distancing, washing hands regularly and ensuring as much ventilation as possible. In addition, we expect students to be outside at breaks and lunchtimes, in their Year Group zone, unless it is raining at that particular time. If it is raining then there are arrangements in place for each year group to have an indoor space that they can access, if they want to. The students will only be informed whether it is a wet break/lunch a short time in advance, so students need to be prepared to be outside in drizzly weather. Therefore, students should bring with them warm clothes and a waterproof coat. Thank you for your support in ensuring that the students are appropriately equipped.

### **Well done to our students!**

I would like to add my own well-done message to our students, for two things: first, for the positive and calm way in which they have conducted themselves in the testing process so far, and second, for the responsible way in which Years 10 to 13 students have returned to face to face lessons in school. They have been very impressive indeed!

Kind regards

Mark Patterson  
Principal