

Lady Margaret Road
Southall
Middlesex
UB1 2GU
Tel: 020 8578 9152 Fax: 020 8747 7891
Email: office@greenford.ealing.sch.uk
Web: www.greenford.ealing.school.uk
Headteacher: Mrs M. Pye B.A. (Hons) M.A. Ed



3rd January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy new year and I hope you have all had a wonderful festive break. We look forward to welcoming your children back to school this term.

I am writing to remind you about our arrangements for the return to school in January, and to also update you on the latest information from the Government about face coverings and the Omicron variant. Please read to the end of this letter as it provides important information, some of which is new and different to what I have communicated before.

Face Coverings

The Government has advised that all students now need to wear a face covering in both classrooms and in communal areas. **Please ensure that your child brings a face covering to school every day.** While most students have been extremely reliable in remembering a face covering each day, there have been some who have forgotten each day. We cannot continue to supply face coverings to students who regularly forget, and reluctantly, we will soon need to consider charging for masks if students do not bring their own. I would recommend purchasing a set of reusable masks, which can be obtained very cheaply.

There are a small number of students who are mask exempt. Those students already on our mask exemption list were issued with a lanyard and mask exemption badge before the Christmas break. If you feel your child should be on the list, please contact the school and ask to speak to the Welfare Office where one of our Welfare Officers will discuss the medical reasons with you and issue a lanyard and badge, if appropriate.

Laptops

We have had a number of parents and carers who have contacted the school about laptops – these are being issued to those families the school feel are most in need of a device. Year 11 and Year 10 devices were distributed before the break and Years 7 to 9 will be issued over the next few weeks. You will be contacted by the school if your child is eligible for a device but if you have any queries regarding access to laptops/chrome books in your home, please contact Mrs Grimley. Please note that we are not in a position to issue laptops to the majority of students and families and consideration for laptops is made on a case by case basis.

Staggered Return to School and Lateral Flow Testing

As I explained in my last letter, the Government has asked all schools to test students for Covid prior to their return to school and has requested a staggered start to schools so that any cases of Covid are contained quickly and not spread amongst the school community. This means that not all students will be

able to return to school on Wednesday 5th January. Please note that this approach has also been agreed with the Local Authority and is in line with all other Ealing High Schools. Further details are outlined below – please read this carefully.

Students will return for lateral flow Covid tests at the following times, as directed by Government. Students will need to remain at home at the other times as indicated. **Whilst students remain at home, online learning will be provided via Google Classroom.** There is no need to give consent for Covid testing again, and if you have already withheld consent, there is no need to let us know again that you do not wish your child to be tested. We already have this information in our records.

Please look carefully at the times below.

Wednesday 5 th January			
Year 11	10.30am	English Class 11X1, 11X2, 11Y1, 11Y2	Year 11 will arrive in school, in uniform, for tests at these times, and stay in school following a negative result. Please note that Year 11 students should arrive according to the English class they are in, as shown in the column to the left. They will remain in school for the rest of the day, then start at 8.30am on Thursday 6 th January, as normal.
	11.15am	English Class 11X3, 11X4, 11Y3, 11Y4	
	12.00pm	English Class 11X5, 11Y5	
Year 10	1.15pm	10G1, 10G2, 10G3	Year 10 will arrive in school for tests in their tutor groups at these times and return straight home after their test. They will then return to school the next day, at 8:30am on Thursday 6 th January, as normal.
	2.00pm	10M1, 10M2, 10M3, 10M4	
	2.45pm	10T1, 10T2, 10T3	
	3.30pm	10W1, 10W2, 10W3, 10W4	
Thursday 6 th January			
Year 13	8.30	13A, 13B, 13C, 13D	Year 13 will arrive in school, for tests in their tutor groups at these times, and stay in school following a negative result. They will remain in school for the rest of the day, then start at 8.30am on Friday 7 th January, as normal.
	9.15	13E, 13F, 13G, 13H	
	10.00	13K, 13M, 13N, 13Y	
Year 7	11.45	7G1, 7G2, 7G3, 7M1	Year 7 will arrive in school, for tests in their tutor groups at these times, and return straight home after their test. They will then return to school the next day, at 8:30am on Friday 7 th January, as normal.
	1.15	7M2, 7M3, 7T1, 7T2	
	2.00	7T3, 7W1, 7W2, 7W3	
Year 12	2.45	12A, 12B, 12C, 12E	Year 12 will arrive in school, for tests in their tutor groups at these times, and return home straight after their test. They will then return to school the next day at 8:30am on Friday 7 th January, as normal.
	3.30	12F, 12G, 12H	
	4.15	12K, 12N, 12Y	
Friday 7 th January			
Year 9	8.45	9G1, 9G2, 9G3, 9M1	Year 9 will arrive in school, for tests in their tutor groups at these times, and return home straight after their test. They will then return to school the next day at 8.30am on Monday 10 th January, as normal.
	9.45	9M2, 9M3, 9T1, 9T2	

	11.15	9T3, 9W1, 9W2, 9W3	
Year 8	12.15	8G1, 8G2, 8G3, 8M1	<i>Year 8 will arrive in school, for tests in their tutor groups at these times, and return home straight after their test. They will then return to school the next day at 8.30am on Monday 10th January, as normal.</i>
	1.30	8M2, 8M3, 8T1, 8T2	
	2.30	8T3, 8W1, 8W2, 8W3	

The Omicron variant and possible impact on school:

We all hope that this term remains as uneventful as possible, but with the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, we need to be realistic that this may result in multiple staff absences. If we have staff absence, we will always try to keep children in school, using our own cover teachers or supply staff where we can. Where staff absence is very high, and we are not able to source enough supply teachers, we may have to combine classes, or provide in-school learning in large groups. Where staff absence is exceptionally high, and it is not possible for us to provide education on-site in a safe manner, we will need to send some year groups home. If this were ever to happen, we would provide remote, online learning and keep the period of home learning as short as possible.

The best way for us to continue to keep the school open as normal, is to keep Covid out of the school as much as possible, so please ensure that your child takes a lateral flow test twice a week. Do not send your child to school if he or she has a positive test result, and let us know straight away. If your child has any flu or cold-like symptoms, please take a lateral flow test immediately, even if your child's symptoms appear to be very mild.

I anticipate that our return to school should be very straightforward, but I will of course contact you immediately if there are any further announcements from the Government.

With my very best wishes,



Mrs M Pye
Headteacher