



# The Sutton Academy

Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

26 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As detailed in my letter on Tuesday 23 February, students will be returning to onsite education from Monday 8 March. Since my last letter there has been a change to the guidance allowing schools to conduct the testing of students before Monday 8 March. This is a positive move as it will ensure **all students can return to the academy on Monday 8 March.** It will also reduce the number of lessons disrupted by testing.

The guidance states that all students, where consent is given, will be tested three times with a 3-5 day gap between each test. Once students have a negative result on their first test, they are then free to start attending lessons on Monday 8 March. With this in mind, we will begin our testing of students next week enabling all students to return on Monday 8 March.

The timetable of testing for your child will be:

Year 8	Test 1 will take place on <b>Thursday 4 March.</b> Students will attend at the time allocated to their form group below. Once they have had their test they will go straight home.  On this day, students do not need to wear academy uniform and online learning will be provided through pre-recorded PowerPoints with no live lessons/Zoom support.  Results will be sent to parents via text message and/or email given on the consent form.	Test 2 will take place on <b>Tuesday 9 March.</b>  Students will have returned to the academy on 8 March. Students will leave their lessons for their test and then return once it has been completed  Results will be sent to parents via text message and/or email given on the consent form.	Test 3 will take place on <b>Friday 12 March.</b>  Students will have returned to the academy on 8 March. On 12 March, students will leave their lessons for their test and then return once it has been completed  Results will be sent to parents via text message and/or email given on the consent form.
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Students who currently attend the vulnerable or Critical Worker provision will continue to do so as normal in full school uniform. They will be tested at the times detailed.

It is imperative that students attend at their allocated time to reduce queueing. Once students have been tested three times on the academy site, they will then be provided with their own testing kit which they will use to test themselves twice a week. Further information on how these tests are used and results recorded will go out at a later date with a video explaining how they are used.

Initially, when the Lateral Flow Tests were first released, schools were asked to test students every day for seven days if they had been in close contact with a positive case. This is no longer the case. If a student has been in close contact with a positive case they will need to follow government guidance and self-isolate for ten days.

The below table gives the times of the test for Thursday 4 March. Students are only required to attend the testing centre at the below time if consent has been given. Otherwise, they will return on Monday 8 March, per government guidance. We would like as many students as possible to be tested to reduce the chance of a year group 'bubble' being impacted by a positive case. If your child has tested positive for Covid-19, in the last 90 days, please let us know. There is potential for students who have tested positive within 90 days to give a positive result on the test but parents/carers can still request the test if they wish.

If a student tests positive they will then need to self-isolate for ten days from the date of the test.

Time (Thursday 4 March)	Tutor Group
8.15am	8 S
8.30am	8 U
8.45am	8 T
9.00am	8 O
9.15am	8 N
9.30am	8 A
9.45am	8 C
10.00am	8 D
10.15am	8 M
10.30am	8 Y
10.45am	8 G

We are really excited to welcome students back to the academy. The academy site is ready and the updated Risk Assessment is on the academy website.

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We understand that lockdown will have been difficult for a number of students and we will make sure that pastorally we are ready to welcome them back. We have redesigned our PSHE curriculum to address a number of issues they may have faced, our Head of Year team have continued with a range of training on emotional wellbeing and we have increased the capacity of our on-site councillor.

A further letter will go out next week with details of start times and will include a reminder of standards and expectations when students return. It is really important that students can return quickly to their education and we ask that parents and carers ensure all the expectations in regards uniform, behaviour and equipment are met so students can go straight into lessons with their teachers.

The consultation on how GCSE and A-Levels are to be awarded has now been released. We will be writing to Year 11 and 13 parents separately to explain the outcome in due course.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any queries or if you need any support.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Willerton  
Principal

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