



Friday 23rd July 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Students Returning to School – Term 1 – Please Read Very Carefully

Thank you for the fantastic support and positive feedback so many of you have given us as a school over the last year.

I am aware that many of our students will still be accessing school over the Summer.

Year 11 have been sent work packs and there are online study sessions taking place in English, Maths and Science next week.

All of our Year 7's joining us in September have been invited to our Summer school transition events taking place from Monday 16th August until Friday 20th August.

We will be celebrating Level 3 exam results with our Year 13's on Tuesday 10th August and GCSE exam results with our Year 11 students on Thursday 12th August.

I have also sent with this letter a copy of our Character Newsletter which I hope you enjoy reading – there has been much to celebrate with our students.

I really hope you all get to spend quality time with your friends and family and that the weather remains pleasant.

The vision for Aylesford School is to provide high quality academic and 'Character Education' which develops confident young people who are successful learners and contribute positively to society. This is underpinned by our focus on developing 'Courage, Confidence, Character'.

Our main priority next academic year, will continue to be students' health and safety, and emotional and mental wellbeing, as well as ensuring a high quality of lessons and developing a culture of excellence throughout the school. This letter sets out September arrangements as per new government guidelines – this is subject to change if there are any new announcements over the Summer.

Continued /

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Testing of students in the Autumn Term and the date that each year group will return full time:

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. As per government guidance we are required to reinstate a full on-site Asymptomatic Testing Site.

The Government have announced that all secondary school students need to be tested twice weekly with a 3 day to 5 day gap between each test. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing, we will help to stop the virus spreading and help keep our school open as safely as possible. The first two tests will be carried out at school and then tests will be provided for parents to test students at home. Parents will need to inform the school of results. All students must have at least one negative test recorded before they return to school.

To ensure a smooth transition back to school, which is safe and organised we will have a staggered programme of testing and return to school. The testing of students and their return dates are as follows:

Year Group	Testing – Dates and Times	Date Returning to School Full Time
Year 12 and 13	1. Thursday 2nd September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards) 2. Monday 6th September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students will be back in school full time and will be tested during the school day)	Monday 6th September
Year 11	1. Thursday 2nd September 12:30 – 14:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards) 2. Monday 6th September 12:30 – 14:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards) Year 11 Students return to school full time on Tuesday 7th September	Tuesday 7th September

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<p>Year 10</p>	<p>1. Friday 3rd September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards)</p> <p>2. Tuesday 7th September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards)</p>	<p>Wednesday 8th September</p>
<p>Year 9</p>	<p>1. Wednesday 8th September 12:30 – 14:00 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards)</p> <p>2. Monday 12th September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students will be back in school full time and will be tested during the school day)</p>	<p>Monday 12th September</p>
<p>Year 8</p>	<p>1. Friday 3rd September 12:30 – 14:00 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards)</p> <p>2. Wednesday 8th September 9:00 – 12:00 (Students will be back in school full time and will be tested during the school day)</p>	<p>Wednesday 8th September</p>
<p>Year 7</p>	<p>1. Thursday 2nd September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students required to come in for Covid test only and will go home afterwards)</p> <p>2. Monday 6th September 8:00 – 11:30 (Students will be back in school full time and will be tested during the school day)</p>	<p>Monday 6th September</p>

If you have not already done so and you are happy for your child to be tested, please complete the consent statement (one per student). You can complete the form electronically by following this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1x4lx185dPRZh1Wj4ijEgCS2sUAUZuw2An7LRdrc19k2KCG/viewform?usp=sf_link

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Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy, using a swab of your nose and throat.

Results will be shared directly with staff and pupils participating.

We know these tests work - in validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, they were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity, but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

If your child or anyone in their household has symptoms, your child must not attend school.

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste, continuous headaches or stomach bug symptoms) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

After the two tests have taken place in school, students will be required to test at home - please remember to do the lateral flow tests twice a week – Saturdays and Wednesdays - every week and record all results with the NHS and the school.

You can send your results into school via this link: <https://forms.gle/ymvudusq8PbqvEen6>

If your child tests positive – you must email me immediately on Tanya.kelvie@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

You will also be required to obtain a PCR Test following a positive result.

All staff and students must hand wash or sanitise regularly throughout the day - please ensure you speak to your child about this - my staff will encourage this but it is everyone's responsibility. All surfaces- desks and chairs need wiping down every lesson.

HANDS

Staff and students must wash hands or hand sanitise regularly throughout the day (On arrival, entering a new building, at the end of break and at the end of lunch).

FACE:

While there is no legal requirement to wear face coverings in school, I strongly recommend that students and staff wear a face covering in communal areas such as corridors.

SPACE:

Students must not touch each other

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Students must maintain at least 1 metre distance where possible and 2 metres in communal areas. Students must maintain a 2-metre distance from staff at all times.

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Students Returning to School:

All students are expected to attend school full time on the date allocated following a negative covid test taken at school as follows:

Year 12 and 13	Monday 6 th September
Year 11	Tuesday 7 th September
Year 10	Wednesday 8 th September
Year 9	Monday 12 th September
Year 8	Wednesday 8 th September
Year 7	Monday 6 th September

Expectations On Return to School (No changes from the Summer Term):

- All students will start school at 8:30 and must be in school on time. There is no ‘window’ for students to arrive and students must be at their line up by 8.30.
- On arrival at school students must go straight to their line up area as follows (These areas have changed slightly):

	Where to line up at the beginning of the day in mentor groups
Year 7 moving to Year 8	Line up in the playground between Twickenham and Lords
Year 8 moving to Year 9	Line up in the playground between Wembley and Lords
Year 9 moving to Year 10	Line up in mentor groups on the MUGA
Year 10 moving to Year 11	Line up in mentor groups on the MUGA
Year 12 moving to Year 13	Go straight to the 6 th Form Centre

- All students must be in full school uniform on arrival to school. Please ensure students are in school shoes and have their blazer and tie. All false nails must be removed.
- Students are no longer permitted to wear PE kit into school. On days when students have PE they will bring their school PE kit in and get changed using our changing rooms. Proper school PE kit must be worn for PE.
- Students will move from lesson to lesson and must follow the one way system as marked out by arrows on the ground.

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- Lunch should still be pre-ordered but we are going to have a selection of food that can be chosen and bought on the day.
- There will be no eating permitted in classrooms but students will be able to eat outside at break time – please ensure students have snacks and sensible drinks with them for break time.

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- KS3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) will finish school at 14:45 and must leave site straight away.
- KS4 and KS5 (Years 10, 11, 12 and 13) will finish school at 15:00 but might be expected to stay after school for revision and study sessions.

School Rules:

Respect, Ready and Safe

Our students know these rules and our expectations have not changed.

I am aware that there might be some concerns or queries that need addressing in Term 1.

Please be reminded that in the first instance parents should raise concerns with your child's mentor or subject class teacher. If concerns/queries are unable to be resolved by the mentor or class teacher, you should then contact the Progress Leader, Pastoral Support Manager or Head of Department. Your child's mentor will be sending their school contact information during the next two weeks.

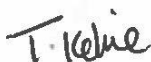
Contact details for raising initial concerns are as follows:

Year 7 into Year 8 Progress Leader	Miss Vidler Hannah.vidler@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Year 8 into Year 9 Progress Leader	Mr Cooper paul.cooper@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Year 9 into Year 10 Progress Leader	Mr Axford Thomas.axford@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Year 10 into Year 11 Progress Leader	Mr Neeve Philip.neeve@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Year 7, 8 and 6 th Form Pastoral Support Manager	Miss Severn Nikki.severn@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Year 9, 10 and 11 Pastoral Support Manager	Mrs Hodgson Tracy.hodgson@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

I look forward to seeing all of our students in September!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



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Headteacher

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