



**Queen Katharine
Academy**

A proud member of



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23 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of the Government's roadmap to ending the current lockdown, schools in England have been asked to resume face to face teaching for all pupils in all year groups from Monday 8th March.

I speak on behalf of all staff here when I say we are thoroughly looking forward to seeing our pupils return to Queen Katharine Academy next month.

The reopening plans include that secondary schools will carry out lateral flow testing for all pupils and staff. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms so, by testing, we will help to stop the spread of the virus and to keep our school open as safely as possible.

Therefore, returning secondary pupils will be tested three times on site and then again once at home in the first two weeks after reopening. During the lockdown, we have already begun trialling the use of testing in school and are very confident that we have the processes in place to deliver this safely. We will provide further information on this testing procedure in due course.

The government is also recommending that the use of face coverings in secondary schools be extended to all indoor environments including classrooms, except where exemptions apply. We will be implementing this policy on the reopening of school.

It is very pleasing that all outdoor after school sports and clubs can return from 8th March, allowing our pupils to share enriching experiences in a fun and safe environment, particularly with the longer spring and summer evenings on the horizon. The staff at Queen Katharine Academy appreciate your continued support for the school and we hope the full detail of the Government's roadmap to reopen the country provides you with hope for an increasingly brighter 2021 where we will be able to see much more of our family and friends and do the things we enjoy.

Until Monday 8th March, pupils will remain at home for classes, unless they are key worker or vulnerable children. I would like to thank all our pupils and parents for the resilience you have shown to home schooling since we closed. I understand how difficult home learning can be but with your support and enthusiasm our pupils continue to make good progress.

We will continue to keep you all updated over the coming days as we finalise all our plans to reopen the school. The school's website and social media channels will also be updated with key information.

As always, we encourage you to keep monitoring the Government's advice – the information can be found on the Government website: <https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus>.

If you have any immediate questions, please contact the school via info@qka.education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Mayes
Principal



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