



**Queen Katharine  
Academy**

A proud member of



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Our Ref LMa/jd

2 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are looking forward to welcoming students back to school to resume face to face teaching during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March. You have already been informed of the requirement to offer Mass Lateral Flow Testing for students before this takes place.

I am sure that that you can appreciate that this is a huge logistical operation and therefore means that a staggered return to school is inevitable. Thank you to all parents and carers who have already responded to the request to give consent for testing to take place. We are assuming that most students will be taking up this offer and are planning accordingly.

We have now been informed that any student that has had a positive PCR test (e.g., from the Showground) result within the last 90 days should not participate in any lateral flow testing until the 90 days has expired. Therefore, any students who fall into this category will not be required to have a lateral flow test. Once the 90 days has expired, students will be entitled to receive a home testing kit to carry out testing at home if consent is given. However, we will need evidence of the positive test result for our records to ensure that the kits are issued at the appropriate time. Evidence of positive tests can be emailed to [info@qka.education](mailto:info@qka.education).

I am now able to share with you the date that each year group will be tested and when they will return to school. **Please only attend for testing if you have given consent:**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>First Test Date (No need for uniform)</b>	<b>Day Face to face teaching begins. (Full school uniform required)</b>
Sixth form	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 11	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 10	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 9	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 8	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 7	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March

Remote learning will continue for all year groups until they are back in the classroom and we will continue to provide provision for the children of essential workers and our vulnerable students in school.

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On Friday this week, we will send you a specific time slot for your child to come to school for their Lateral Flow Test. Children do not need to wear their school uniform to get their test. After they have completed their test, they will return home and, providing the test result is negative, they will be able to return to school full time the next day, when full school uniform will be required. Parents will receive the result of a positive test by text/email within two hours of the test. Negative test results will take a little longer but will be also sent by text/email.

Please note that in order to have the test the consent form needs to be completed in advance:  
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nowK81Jo8E2Ms5kmm08dZpVPpb-CAklOmI9G20iXwldUOFhNNkNMVEIKSTVLMFE1UFE2S042S1dTOC4u>

If you are completing a paper consent form, please ensure it is filled in full and that your child brings it with them.

Please note that students who are not participating in the Lateral Flow Testing should return to school on the appropriate day, specified in the table above, for face-to-face teaching.

If you are bringing your child in a car for their test, only the child should leave the car; you must remain in your vehicle at all times.

Parents/carers and students can see the updated risk assessment on our website <https://www.qka.education/attachments/download.asp?file=897&type=pdf> which includes the systems and procedures in operation during the school day, so we can ensure the return for all our school community is as safe as possible. This does include the requirement for all our children and staff to wear face coverings in class, unless they are taking part in strenuous activity, like PE. They will also be able to remove face coverings when they eat at lunch time and when they go outdoors. If you believe your child is exempt from wearing a face covering please confirm this with our Assistant Principal [Joanne.hammond@qka.education](mailto:Joanne.hammond@qka.education)

If your child has received a letter from their GP advising that they are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable please could you also get in contact with [Joanne.hammond@qka.education](mailto:Joanne.hammond@qka.education). It is vital that we make all the appropriate arrangements to support all our children.

As an additional measure to keep QKA COVID free I would encourage you to take advantage of the home testing now available. This is available to all members of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil. You can get a twice-weekly test in the following ways:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

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Get a test through your employer

- Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

- You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator.
- You may need to book an appointment.
- [Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site](#). There are 7 sites across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Collect test kits

- You can collect up to 4 home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains 7 tests.
- Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go.

[Order home test kits online](#)

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank everyone for your support over the last three months. We certainly hope that this will be the last time that we find ourselves in this situation but please be aware that some plans may be subject to last minute changes dependent on any updated guidance from the Local Authority and the Thomas Deacon Education Trust.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs L Mayes**  
**Principal**