

All Hallows Catholic College

A Voluntary Academy | National Teaching School

Aspire not to have more but to be more

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Principal - Mr T Beesley

24th February 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope you are well. As you will be aware, the Prime Minister announced on Monday that schools and colleges will be opening fully again from 8th March, and we have received guidance about how to prepare for the return of our students. We are awaiting clarification about some of the details, but I should be in a position to share more information with you in due course. What we do know, however, is that secondary schools should offer students on-site asymptomatic testing from 8th March, and because of the logistics involved in planning such mass-testing, the return of students can be phased during the first week, to manage the number of students passing through the test site at any one time. Furthermore, we should offer three tests, three to five days apart.

Schools have been advised that they have the flexibility to consider how best to deliver testing on a phased basis from 8th March, depending on their circumstances and local arrangements, but that they should prioritise vulnerable children and children of critical workers, and year groups 10 to 13. Students should return to face-to-face education following their first negative test result, and any students who are not undergoing testing should still attend College in line with the phased return arrangements. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged.

We are currently working on our plan for phasing students back into College from Monday 8th March, and I will communicate this with you shortly. In the meantime, if we have not already received consent for your child to be tested, I would refer you to the following information on the College website:

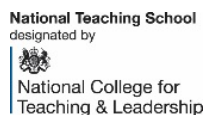
- A [leaflet](#) that explains testing to students, parents and staff
- The [All Hallows Privacy Statement](#)
- A [Mass Testing Data Protection FAQ](#)

There is also a link to an [electronic consent form](#) which must be completed by **9am on Tuesday 2nd March**, if you would like your child to participate in the testing programme. If students are 16 or over, they can complete the consent form themselves, but they should discuss their participation with a parent or carer first. Please have this conversation with your child regardless of age and remember that while testing is voluntary it is strongly encouraged.

Thank you for your continued support and as always, if you do have questions about any of the issues above, please feel free to email my PA, Mrs Metheringham, at principalpa@allhallows.org.uk

God Bless

Tim Beesley



Honourable Purpose

Respect

Compassion

Co-operation

Stewardship