



Winterton Community Academy

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Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

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23rd February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Following the most recent government announcement, I am writing to give you an initial overview as to how we will implement a return to school for all students as of the 8th March 2021.

It is evident within the guidance that all pupils should be offered three COVID tests within school as a part of their return.

Therefore, we have taken the decision that the first of those tests will be made available to our students on Thursday 4th March and Friday 5th March. We will communicate further details in the near future so please keep an eye out for this. It is also imperative that we have a returned consent form to allow us to administer the test, so you must ensure that this has been returned to school. <http://www.wintertonca.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Consent-form.docx> We will then be able to allow all students to return on the 8th March, when we will be able to continue with our testing schedule to allow them to receive their second and third tests as appropriate.

It is a requirement within the government guidance that all students must wear facemasks within the building, both during lessons and during transition. We appreciate the challenge that this presents and have therefore as a result made some modifications to the school day to provide our students with the opportunity of some respite. As a result, there will be a fifteen minute transition between lessons, as opposed to the normal five minutes that we currently have in place. This will provide our students with the opportunity to take a mini-break, to go outside and take their face-mask off and get some fresh air. It is our intention to allow this to happen, even if it is raining and therefore we recommend that all students have a suitable raincoat with them and/or a small portable umbrella. Lessons will be 50 minutes long as opposed to an hour to create this capacity and also, lunchtime will be extended by 15 minutes to facilitate more time to allow each year group to access the canteen safely.

During this period, students will for the most part be situated in the same classroom and their teachers will transition throughout the school. This is again in line with the government guidance and enables us to keep contact to a minimum. There will be some movement for practical subjects and also at Key Stage 4 where options choices make this necessary to do so.

The changes that we have implemented are initially as a short-term measure and will be reviewed before Easter for the Summer term. Our priority at this stage is to find a way to allow our students to return safely and to create the capacity required to administer the tests.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back and taking these initial steps towards normality.

Thank you as ever for your support,

Kind regards,

Mr Rowlands
Headteacher