



1st March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid-19 testing for students at JRCS

I hope you and your families are well and staying safe during this time. Many thanks for all your support over the past few months.

You will be aware of the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the reopening of all schools from Monday 8th March 2021.

Staff at JRCS are really looking forward to students returning and I am sure that your sons and daughters are keen to return to school to see friends and re-engage with face to face learning. I am writing to let you know that we are working hard to ensure that absolutely everything is in place to make sure the school continues to be as safe as possible in readiness for the return of students and staff.

You may be aware that, whilst primary students will all return to school in England on Monday 8th March, there is an expectation that secondary schools offer a series of asymptomatic tests to students whose parents have given consent. More flexibility has been given to principals and headteachers around phased return dates for students to secondary schools as the Government recognises the magnitude of the task of testing students whilst also delivering full time on-site education provision.

Students are being asked to have three Covid-19 tests three to five days apart. The testing programme for the first week will therefore be:

Friday 5th March	Year 12 and Year 13 students (return to school on Monday 8/3/21)
Monday 8th March	Year 11 (test in the morning and remain in school all day) Year 10 (test in the afternoon and return to school on Tuesday 9/3/21)
Tuesday 9th March	Year 7 (test in the morning and remain in school all day)
Wednesday 10th March	Year 8 (test in the morning and remain in school all day)
Thursday 11th March	Year 9 (test in the morning and remain in school all day)

Please follow this link <https://jorichardson.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/COVID-Testing-Timetable.pdf> for full details about when your son or daughter's class will be tested. Please make sure your son or daughter comes to school at the correct time so they do not miss their appointment.

The second part of this process is for you to give your permission for your child to be tested at the school. This will involve the self-administration, under staff supervision, of a Lateral Flow Test for Covid-19 via swabbing of the nose and throat. In order to do this, can you please follow this link

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=5o9fCMiVwU2eytVVu49p37GILwQFFDRCiCTOF6CkLfIUMDUyTEtOSUdTQU9QNDBFQzZDSEdWNDFYMS4u> where you will find a copy of our consent form which will only take a short time to complete. Parents of Year 12 and 13 students do not need to complete this form as the students themselves will give consent in person on Friday 5th March.

Details of the plans for future in-school testing over the coming weeks will be circulated as soon as possible. Once the students have completed the three tests in school, they will be required to take the same test at home using a kit that will be supplied by the school. As soon as we have more information about this part of the process, I will make sure that I communicate it to you. Our Sixth Form students will only test once in school on Friday 5th March; after this they will carry out their own tests at home.

Please note that should your son or daughter have tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 90 days, they do not need to re-test until this period of time has elapsed. Any students not testing for any reason must return to school with their form group at the designated time.

Please be aware that upon return to school students will immediately follow their original timetable that was in place at the end of the autumn term which includes staggered start and finish times.

I would like to reassure you that the safety and welfare of our school community is an absolute priority and this priority is coupled with a drive to start face to face lessons as soon possible. Our aim is to return, in the safest of manners, to exceptional teaching, learning and student progress and providing students with the academic and pastoral support and security they deserve after a very challenging year.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely



G Smith
Headteacher