

5 March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

**Welcome back message**

There has been a palpable sense of eager anticipation this week within school as we have been readying ourselves to welcome everyone back next week. It has been over 11 weeks since we were last formally together as a school community and I know the vast majority of us all are really looking forward to getting some routine normality back into our lives. We appreciate that it has been a long time and that some of us may be feeling some anxiety about returning next week. Those feelings are entirely normal and understandable given the circumstances and I am certain that when we are all back in, we will wonder what all the fuss was about.

As you will be aware, we are having a staggered approach to the return to school to enable us to complete the Lateral Flow Testing (LFT). Please do familiarise yourselves with the information we have already shared and, in particular, with the time you are expected to return. Keeping to your time will really help us with the process. If you are in Year 7, 10 or 11 and have not consented to have a LFT, please come to school at your allotted tutor time via the community entrance and you will head straight to your tutor group room.

As I explained in my previous letter, all of the system of controls and measures that we previously employed last term remain, including the separate entrances to school. It will be really important that students exercise good judgement when coming to and from school regarding maintaining social distancing and must not congregate in groups outside of the school if they arrive early.

So, over the next couple of days if you have not done so already, it is time to find your school uniform and check that it still fits comfortably; gather up your school books, equipment including your laptop and pack your bag; do not worry too much about your hair we have all got a lockdown haircut (unless you are like me and it doesn't grow anymore – one of the few advantages to going bald); remember if you have PE then you can wear the kit to school if you choose to on that day, and you can look forward to catching up with your friends, classmates and staff.

Any questions, please check Mrs Robinson's letter first and if you are still uncertain, please email or telephone.

Thanks for your support, as always.

Yours faithfully



Mr S P Laheney  
**Headteacher & Chief Executive Officer**