

26 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following Mrs Sprack's weekly update, I am writing to you to share details of how we will be working from the week beginning 8 March after the government's announcements on Monday regarding students returning to school and the updated guidance and control measures.

Friday 5 March Staff Testing Day - Throughout the day all staff at South Axholme Academy will receive a Lateral Flow Test. This means that there may be some disruption to teaching on this day. Individual class teachers will update their classes via Teams as to the arrangements of their virtual lesson.

Returning to school - There will be a staggered return to school during the week beginning 8 March in line with Government advice. This will allow the safe administration of the testing process. Students whose parents have consented to Lateral Flow Testing will receive a series of three tests over the course of the first 7 days, on their return to the Academy. After the initial test on day 1, students then receive two further tests three – five days apart. Whilst the tests are not compulsory, I would strongly urge you to complete the consent form which you received earlier in the week so that we can prevent the spread of Covid-19 amongst our community and minimise the need to close bubbles and require students and staff to self-isolate.

Return to school dates

Monday 8 March	Years 10, 11,12 and 13 only	Years 7,8 and 9	Virtual Learning at home
Tuesday 9 March	Years 7, 8 and 9 only	Years 10,11,12 and 13	Virtual Learning at home

Wednesday 10 March All students return

Please note that on Monday 8 March and Tuesday 9 March there may be some changes to the online virtual learning classes with some staff delivering extended lessons to students in school. Class teachers will inform their students via Teams as to the changes to the lesson which may take the form of an assignment or other suitable activities.

Day 1 Testing - When students return on their first day they will be directed to a specific classroom (we will advise next week which classrooms they will be). Students will remain in this classroom until all students whose parents have consented to Lateral Flow Testing have been tested. The curriculum and timetable on this day will be different to their normal timetable. Students whose parents have not consented to Lateral Flow testing will remain within the classroom with their host teacher whilst testing of others is completed. Should a student receive a positive test result, the latest Public Health England and Department for Education guidelines will be followed and you will be contacted to come to collect your child. After day 1 testing is completed students will return to Covid secure teaching within year group bubbles. Please note on testing day 2 and testing day 3 students will receive an amended timetable to ensure testing can be completed as quickly as possible with minimum disruption.

Principal: Mr S Barlow
South Axholme Academy
Burnham Road, Epworth
Doncaster, DN9 1BY
Tel: (01427) 872121
E-mail: admin@southaxholme-iet.co.uk
www.southaxholmeacademy.co.uk

ALL students will be required to bring a packed lunch along with any break time snacks and drinks they require as there will be no food service available in school until **Tuesday 18 March**. Those students entitled to a free school meal will be able to collect a packed lunch from the canteen upon arrival each morning. Vulnerable Students and children of Key Workers - will continue to attend school as normal on Monday 8 March 2021. Unlike previously, we will not be asking parents to "book" places. Vulnerable students and children of key workers in Key Stage 4 and 5 will return with their Year Groups on Monday and provision will be in place for them in school on the Tuesday. Vulnerable students and children of key workers in Key Stage 3 should attend on Monday 8 March and then will return to their respective Year Group bubbles on Tuesday.

Timetable Monday 8 March – Monday 15 March

All students working in school or from home will continue to follow the timetable below.

Registration / Assembly	8.55am – 9.05am
Period 1	9.05am – 9.55am
Period 2	9.55am – 10.45am
Break	10.45am – 11.00am
Period 3	11.00am – 11.50am
Period 4	11.50am – 12.40pm
Lunch	12.40pm – 1.30pm
Period 5	1.30pm – 2.20pm
Period 6	2.20pm – 3.10pm

On Tuesday 16 March students will return to the timings and staggered lunchtimes timetable which was in operation prior to the national lockdown in January.

Face Coverings

Students over the age of 11 must continue to wear face coverings in school and on public transport and also when they are moving around the school site. Students who arrive on school transport must continue to sit in their allocated seat.

Students are now required to wear face coverings in lessons. Parents of students who are medically exempt from wearing face coverings **must contact the Academy before Monday 8 March** providing medical evidence. Face coverings may only be removed when eating or drinking and **students should continue to bring a sealable bag or container** in which to store their mask when not in use. Face coverings are not required during Physical Education lessons.

The government have indicated they will review the use of face coverings in lessons at Easter. We appreciate that the wearing of face coverings as outlined above is not ideal, but in the interests of stopping the transmission of Covid-19, the health and safety of both staff and students and following the governments guidelines we thank you for your anticipated support.

Yours sincerely



Mr Barlow
Principal