

# Lent Term 2021

Returning to Heathfield on 8 March  
COVID-19 Guidance



Heathfield  
School  
Ascot



Heathfield School  
Ascot

Dear Parents and Guardians

The announcements from the Government and Department for Education on Monday were such welcome news for schools. We are extremely excited to be able to be welcoming your daughter back to Heathfield and are delighted to confirm the arrangements in place to ensure her smooth and safe transition back into School. As always, your daughter's wellbeing and safety are at the heart of all decision-making and planning, and all staff are working hard to make the process as enjoyable and efficient as possible.

I hope that the information in this document will explain the practicalities of our return, the procedures for lateral flow testing within School, and the arrangements for various potential scenarios. We are expecting to receive further updates from the Government regarding public examinations later this week and will communicate with pupils and parents in as timely a way as possible.

Our testing facilities within School have been trialled and are now running in preparation for your daughter's return. We have arranged a staggered return to ensure that the process is safe, smooth and efficient for all involved, with asymptomatic testing for all pupils on Monday 8 March. Arrangements are explained in detail in the appropriate sections of this brochure. Testing will provide the safest environment for everybody within our community, allowing the girls to continue their education and enjoy daily life in as close to a normal routine as possible. We will continue to observe all Covid-safe measures, as outlined in this document.

We are here to help and support you and your family and will continue to keep you updated with regular communications. Our weekly '*Zoom with the Head*' will continue, with this week's sessions on 24 February at 17:00 and for international parents; on Thursday 25 February at 09:00 (UK time), focusing particularly on our return to School. Subsequent sessions for this term are as follows:

Thursday 4 March, 12:30  
Wednesday 10 March, 8:00  
Tuesday 16 March, 16:00

If you have concerns or questions meanwhile, please do contact us:

- Mrs Rachel Whitton, Deputy Head Pastoral and Boarding at [rwhitton@heathfieldschool.net](mailto:rwhitton@heathfieldschool.net)
- Mr Andy Valner, Assistant Head Pastoral and Boarding at [avalner@heathfieldschool.net](mailto:avalner@heathfieldschool.net)
- Surgery staff at [surgery@heathfieldschool.net](mailto:surgery@heathfieldschool.net)

There is a palpable buzz around School as we prepare for our return and I am very much looking forward to sharing that with everyone in our community.

Best wishes

**Sarah Wilson**  
Headmistress





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## **Returning to School on 8 March**

We are delighted that the Government has announced the reopening of schools. To allow students to return safely, we are participating in the COVID-19 asymptomatic testing programme to help deliver the national priority of keeping as many students and teachers as possible in School, while fighting the spread of COVID-19.

In order to accommodate this testing, we are staggering the return times for the pupils, as below.

Heathfield have set up an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) for lateral flow testing (LFT) using the Sports Hall. Students and teachers without symptoms, who may be infectious but unaware, are able to be tested. If the test result is positive, they must then self-isolate. If the result is negative, they are able to attend School with the reassurance of a negative result. Further information about the testing process is detailed later.

Whilst we encourage all students to undertake a test on their return to School to help protect themselves and the wider school community, participation in testing is voluntary and will not be administered without parental consent. Please find further details and links to the consent forms under 'Testing'.

## **Arriving at Heathfield**

Prior to arrival to School we ask that all parents submit the [holiday health form](#) so that we can update our medical records.

In order to minimise unnecessary contact, and to allow time for temperature checking and testing, we are arranging for staggered arrival times for all year groups. The arrival dates and times are for pupils who have either already quarantined for 10 days or are UK based pupils. We do ask that parents wait in their car until their allotted time to prevent social mixing in the car park.

## **Monday 8 March**

10:00 Forms I & II Day Pupils testing; surnames A-M

10:30 Forms I & II Day Pupils testing; surnames N-Z

11:00 Form III Day Pupils testing; surnames A-P

11:30 Form III Day Pupils testing; surnames Q-Z

12:00 Forms I & II Boarders return; surnames A-L

12:30 Forms I & II Boarders return; surnames M-Z

13:00 *Lunch for Form I & II Boarders*

13:00 Form III Boarders return; surnames A-L

13:30 Form III Boarders return; surnames M-Z

14:00 Form IV Boarders & Day pupils return; surnames A-L  
14:30 Form IV Boarders & Day pupils; surnames M-Z

15:00 Form V Boarders & Day Pupils return; surnames A-K  
15:30 Form V Boarders & Day Pupils return; surnames L-Z

16:00 LVI Boarders & Day pupils return; surnames A-P  
16:30 LVI Boarders & Day pupils return; surnames Q-Z

17:00 UVI Boarders & Day pupils return; surnames A-P  
17:30 UVI Boarders & Day pupils return; surnames Q-Z

*Supper for all Boarders*

## **Tuesday 9 March**

08:15 - 09:20: Tutor Time  
09:20 - 09:55: Assembly  
10:30 - 11:05: Lessons start

All Co-Curricular on-site clubs and activities resume Wednesday 10 March.

## **Dropping off**

### **Boarders**

In order to facilitate the testing and ensure your daughter is permitted to stay on-site, all parents will need to arrive via Priory Road entrance and park in Car Park 1 or behind the Swimming Pool. Pupils should leave their luggage in the car and go into the Sports Hall via the front entrance, following the signs, to be tested.

Pupils will only enter the Sports Hall when it is their time to be tested and leave as soon as the test is complete. A one-way system will be in operation. Please wait in your car if you arrive early.

We estimate the process will take between 50 and 80 minutes, including the test result waiting time. Toilet facilities will be available in the Swimming Pool complex. All pupils will return to their car after testing pending their result. Those arriving from airports will go to our waiting area. Once a negative test result has been received (sent by email or text to the number given at the testing registration) they will be notified to proceed to the appropriate area for disembarking.

If the test is positive, pupils will be asked to return home / to guardians immediately and follow the isolation guidelines. Our surgery will be available to offer advice and we will be on hand to discuss arrangements with you.

Similar to the start of the Michaelmas term, we will be operating a kerbside drop off only and Heathfield staff will assist your daughter with taking her belongings to her accommodation. To reduce the number of people entering the boarding accommodation, we will not be inviting parents into the boarding areas.

We understand this may be difficult for some families but trust that you will support us in this matter so that we can safeguard the health of our boarding community.

### **Day Pupils**

On Monday 8 March, Day Pupils need to arrive via the Priory Road entrance and park in Car Park 1 or behind the Swimming Pool. We ask that parents remain on site in their car while their child takes their rapid Covid test.

Pupils will only enter the testing venue when it is their time to be tested and leave as soon as the test is complete. A one-way system will be in operation. Pupils can then depart the School site. Results will be sent by email or text to the number given at the testing registration.

We estimate the testing process will take between 20 and 30 minutes. Toilet facilities will be available in the Swimming Pool complex.

## **Testing**

**In order for testing to be undertaken please complete the [consent form](#) by Wednesday 3 March.**

In line with the Government testing protocols released for schools, here at Heathfield we will be testing asymptomatic staff and pupils on their return to School. The Rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD)s will support the return to face-to-face education by helping to identify people who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms. Following three onsite tests pupils will be moving to a home testing model. Heathfield will continue to test all pupils who are unable to be tested at home twice weekly. This testing remains voluntary, but it is strongly encouraged.

Pupils can return to face-to-face education and boarding following their first negative test result. Individuals with a positive LFD test result will need to self-isolate in line with the guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection. Those with a negative LFD test result can continue to attend school unless they have individually been advised otherwise by NHS Test and Trace or Public Health professionals (for example as a close contact).

## **Home testing**

Both pupils and staff will be supplied with LFD test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a week at home. Staff and pupils must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. Staff and pupils should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with the School to help with contact tracing. These tests should be undertaken under adult supervision. Pupils and staff will be asked to submit their results via this [Home testing result form](#).

Staff or pupils with a positive LFD test result will need to self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result if the test was done at home. Those with a negative LFD test result can continue to attend school and use protective measures.

## **Track and Trace**

All pupils and staff will be asked on a daily basis to complete their track and trace form. This will become part of our daily routine in order to monitor who individuals have had close contact with. Tracking the spread of the virus, then tracing the people an infected person has come into contact with is key to successfully minimising any potential spread of the virus. We found that pupils struggled to recall accurately who they had spent time with when trying to look back over multiple days. So, we are hoping that doing this pre-emptively means that we can quickly identify who to isolate even at the point someone is symptomatic.

The Government's coronavirus guidance describes the Test and Trace as serving two purposes: ensuring the quick testing of those with Covid-19 symptoms; and tracing close recent contacts of those who test positive for Covid-19 to inform them to self-isolate.

[Track and trace form](#)

## Quarantine for overseas boarders

The UK Government has currently closed all travel corridors therefore all pupils arriving from abroad will have to quarantine for up to 10 days.

Anyone who is not a British or Irish national, or who does not have the right to reside in the UK, who has travelled from or through a 'red list' country in the previous 10 days, is not permitted to enter the UK and should not travel.

Where pupils (and their parents or guardians or family member) meet the UK entry requirements and have travelled from or through a 'red list' country in the previous 10 days, they must quarantine in a managed quarantine hotel for 10 days. Pupils travelling to England from other, non 'red list' countries will need to quarantine at their place of residence or other suitable place and purchase a home testing package – this can be obtained through Windsor Travel Clinic, with coronavirus (COVID-19) tests to be taken on days 2 and 8 after arrival to support the UK's genomic sequencing programme.

Before travelling, everyone must:

- Take a coronavirus (COVID-19) test and get a negative result during the 3 days before you travel book and pay for a travel test package, which will include coronavirus (COVID-19) tests to be taken on day 2 and day 8 of your quarantine.
- Complete a [passenger locator form](#) before arrival, with details of where you will quarantine when you arrive and the travel test package booking reference number.
- Where arriving from a 'red list' country, permitted travellers will be met on arrival in England and transported directly to their quarantine hotel. When they arrive at the managed quarantine hotel, they will be required to quarantine in their room for 10 days. Parents or a guardian, or family member should accompany their child at all times, including whilst they are in quarantine. This may be a parent or guardian, or family member who has accompanied their child when travelling to England, or a different parent, guardian or family member who will need to join and stay with their child in quarantine.
- Where parents are unable to travel with their child or provide a guardian or family member to quarantine with their child you should advise them not to travel. The costs of isolating in a hotel will be borne by the parent and are currently set at £1,750. There are reductions for adults and children sharing a room.

Where pupils have travelled to England from a country from where travel is permitted, they are required to quarantine in their own accommodation for 10 days. Heathfield will endeavour to accommodate any pupil who needs to quarantine on site, but we do ask in the first instance that where possible parents or guardians provide suitable accommodation for the pupils' quarantine.

The UK test and release scheme details can be found [here](#). The earliest you can take the test is in 5 full days, for most international arrivals this will be on your fifth full day of self-isolation. Should you have a negative test result, usually received 48 hours after the test date, you can return to School, but you will still have to test on day 8 from your arrival.

A reminder to all our international families, or families where others are taking responsibility for your daughter, the statutory guardian rules apply, in that pupils must be supervised at all times by someone older than 25 years old (our Educational Guardian Policy will offer you more details on these requirements).

Pupils are expected to take part in all of their timetabled lessons remotely whilst undertaking their quarantine.



We will need a record of the arrival date into the UK for all overseas boarders to ensure the necessary isolation period has been undertaken before returning to Heathfield. **Therefore all International families must complete the [returning to Heathfield from abroad form](#).**

Should your daughter need to be collected from the airport, taxi bookings made through the School will continue to be provided by our two approved taxi companies, Ascot Cars and Gainsborough Cars. We will be liaising with both companies regarding our health and safety expectations. Owing to social distancing measures, we anticipate that girls will not be able to share taxis to School unless they have travelled together.

**Please ensure that your daughter does not travel if she is feeling unwell for any reason including showing any of the known COVID-19 symptoms.**

### **Delays in returning to School**

We understand that not all pupils will be able to return as planned due to travel restrictions or visa delays. If students are unable to return, please ensure the school is aware by emailing [pastoralandboarding@heatfieldschool.net](mailto:pastoralandboarding@heatfieldschool.net). Please note however, that it is a requirement that they attend their timetabled lessons remotely and partake as far as is reasonably practicable within different time zones.

### **Health and Hygiene**

We are fortunate to have a very experienced 24 hour fully staffed surgery on site. We have ensured that all staff understand the symptoms of COVID-19 and they understand the process to be followed in accordance with Department for Education and Public Health England guidance. If a child or member of staff displays any symptoms isolation procedures will be followed to minimise risk to other members of the school and boarding community and testing procedures followed. In the event of a student or staff member testing positive for COVID-19, we will isolate the individual immediately and establish a track and trace system to ensure that any relevant pupils and staff are isolated quickly. We will follow the guidelines of Public Health England and the School's risk assessment.

At this time, we will not conduct any off-site visits to minimise the risks associated with these areas. However, we will optimise the use of our large site. Cleaning of high frequency areas will be conducted regularly throughout the day and there will be in depth cleaning of all areas, including classrooms and boarding houses, every day.

We will continue with the additional measures put in place in the Michaelmas term, including:

- Additional handwashing and sanitising facilities around the site.
- Regular reminders of the importance of thorough handwashing.
- Additional rooms have been allocated to provide an extension of the Surgery to allow for isolation of students if any were to become unwell/show symptoms.
- Surgery will receive ongoing training regarding COVID-19.
- Rooms are inspected before school day begins to ensure that Housekeeping can thoroughly clean all surfaces. Rooms will be aired throughout the day.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes for whole school; surfaces that are touched frequently such as desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches etc are cleaned more regularly than normal.
- Lidded bins for tissues which are be emptied throughout the day.





- Where possible, ensure spaces are well ventilated.
- Doors will be propped open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and to aid ventilation.
- All boarders are required to wash their hands on return to the boarding house as routine.
- Strict laundry guidance are adhered to.
- Daily temperature checks for all pupils and staff.
- All staff and pupils wash or sanitise their hands on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing and use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze into and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it').
- Pupils will be allocated to Year bubbles. These bubbles will permit a relaxation on social distancing rules as these bubbles are technically classified as households. But we ask that all pupils are sensible with their contact with others in their bubble, recognising that the greatest effect on their education is when they are named as close contacts to multiple pupils.

In line with updated guidance, pupils and staff will now wear masks in all lessons and communal spaces, where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Should a pupil display any of the medical markers for COVID-19 they will be isolated in the Surgery. Day pupils will be sent home immediately, UK boarders will be collected as soon as possible, and International boarders will be given the option to quarantine in our Surgery.

### **Face Coverings**

The UK Government requires pupils and staff to wear face coverings at all times, including when moving around the premises such as in corridors and communal areas. Coverings must be worn in classrooms and during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. We appreciate there are some staff and pupils who are exempt from wearing face coverings and we will respect this.

Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils or staff when outdoors.

We suggest pupils have at least 7 reusable face coverings, which can be changed daily and washed regularly. We appreciate that wearing masks for significant periods of time can be uncomfortable and so would ask that masks are checked for comfort before returning to School. Please brief your child in the correct application and removal of their face covering and provide them with somewhere they can keep their face covering hygienically stored during lunch times and PE.



## **School Life**

Heathfield's ethos to have small classes means we can effectively follow the UK Government guidance regarding social distancing and provisions in school settings. We would like to reassure families that our community ethos will remain the same and the wellbeing of your daughter will be of paramount importance.

Having utilised "social bubbles" for the Michaelmas Term, we have found that whilst these did help to minimise the mixing of pupils, additionally pastoral issues emerged as a result. Therefore, bubbles will be year groups from March 2021.

This means that track and trace will be of great importance. We will train pupils and advise them on recording their interactions on a daily basis to ensure that they are keeping an accurate record of who their close contacts have been. There will be no cross-year group mixing within 2 metres.

We ask for your support in asking your daughter/s to respect this, as there were a number of frustrations with some pupils not adhering to this and we must stress that we will sanction any pupil who breaks bounds and puts their year group at risk. It must be stressed that social distancing should be adhered to wherever possible, even within a year group.



## **Boarding**

Boarders will now board in their year group bubbles, this change allows us to maintain a level of normalcy and yet protect against the virus.

Boarding year groups will be allocated specific bathrooms and common areas. Staff will be on duty during the free times during the day to monitor the girls' interactions and ensure that they are respecting the social distance guidelines. All boarders should protect their bedrooms as 'their' spaces and ensure they do not allow others to break social distancing in those spaces. Being vigilant with washing hands when they return to their bedrooms and always wearing masks in communal areas.

Whilst day pupils and boarders will still be taught together in their bubbles, day pupils will not be allowed to visit the boarding houses for the time being.

If your daughter is permitted to go out at weekends, please collect her by car on a Friday evening (from 16:00) and return by car on Sunday evening (by 19:00). All boarders will undergo a short health check and test on their return. If they meet any of the medical markers of COVID-19 they will be asked to go home, therefore we ask all those dropping off their daughters wait until those checks have been made before departing.

If your daughter is unwell, she must not return to School and should remain at home until she is fully recovered, even if it is not a COVID-19 related symptom.

We will monitor closely Government guidance on restrictions; currently pupils are not permitted to join other families for meals or sleep overs as although the pupils may be in the same 'bubble', any other family member is classified as a different 'household' and therefore we cannot permit this broader social mixing. We ask that all our families are very strict in their social mixing and take every precaution to protect our school community.



### **Remote/ Blended Learning**

For all pupils, we will continue to provide lessons regardless of whether pupils are physically in School or working remotely online. We have planned for four scenarios:

- If your daughter has not tested positive for COVID-19 and her year-group bubble is in School, she will be taught in the classroom as usual.
- If your daughter has tested positive for COVID-19 despite being asymptomatic or is exhibiting the symptoms of COVID-19 while the rest of her year-group bubble is in School, she will need to self-isolate as per UK government guidance and will join her classes online while others are in the classroom (this is known as 'blended learning').
- Similarly, if your daughter is overseas and unable to return to the UK at this time and her year-group bubble is in School, she will join her classes online while others are in the classroom (blended learning).
- If your daughter's year-group bubble is not in School as it has been sent home, your daughter, provided that she is sufficiently well, will join her classes remotely online with her classmates who will do the same.

## **Curriculum and examination classes**

As we are now testing and traveling on Monday 8 March, normal lessons will not take place. Short, optional assignments will be set in each subject on your daughter's timetable for the day through Microsoft Teams Assignments. These can be completed at any time throughout the day. Full teaching will recommence on Tuesday 9 March.

Lessons will revert to 35 minutes for single lessons and 1 hour 10 minutes for double lessons. All single lessons and practical lessons will, once again, be taught. Ofqual, the examination regulator, will be publishing its guidance on the grading of GCSEs and A Levels later this week. We will update all those taking GCSE and A Level qualifications as soon as we can.

## **Weekends**

Our weekend programme will be dynamic and shaped by the latest guidance. Initially we are planning more local activities as currently no trips are permitted. We will look to amend this as UK Government advice changes.

On site activities will be provided to ensure a fun and varied programme for our boarders, and of course we have excellent facilities already on site for this, including the cookery room, sports hall and netball courts as well as the extensive grounds for walking and running.

We do ask that any movement of pupils to and from School is kept to an absolute minimum. Therefore, we will not be as flexible with our usual permissions for leave from School. This is purely to maintain the safety and minimise any contamination risk to our community.

## **Catering and meal provision**

Heathfield's catering team have been following strict health and safety regulations. Our dishwashers use high temperatures that kill all germs so there is no need to use disposable cutlery or plates.

There will continue to be a reduced meal service to limit pupil interaction; condiments will not be self-serve, and there will be no shared use of utensils.

Snacks at break and after school will be pre-packaged or served by catering staff.

Your daughter will be eating with her friends in her 'year bubble'. Mealtimes will be staggered by year group to reduce the number of students eating at the same time, with social distancing in place as far as possible with queuing and eating.

Pupils will be expected to carry a named water bottle at all times to drink from. Drinking fountains will only be available for the refilling of bottles. The School will provide facilities to ensure your daughter's water bottle can be washed regularly.

## **Risk Assessments**

We have conducted thorough risk assessments for the return of our pupils to the School and we are constantly monitoring Government guidance and updating our risk assessments accordingly. Heathfield is a member of the British Boarding Schools' Association and the Girls' School Association and we are attending regular virtual meetings and receiving daily updates informing us of best practice for the safe running of schools and boarding facilities at this time.



## Contact Information

Please do get in touch with us here at Heathfield if you have any questions at all. We would be very pleased to speak to you.

Phone: +44 (0)1344 898343

Rachel Whitton (Deputy Head Pastoral & Boarding, DSL & Wellbeing Lead)

[pastoralandboarding@heathfieldschool.net](mailto:pastoralandboarding@heathfieldschool.net)



## COVID-SAFE Charter

The BSA COVID-SAFE Charter is a voluntary code to which schools can adhere and aims to give confidence to everyone that the School is following all appropriate measures to ensure that boarding is a safe environment for pupils. Heathfield is pleased to advise parents, pupils, guardians and agents that the School has adopted the Charter. The Charter is aligned with the School's own arrangements for boarding, which go beyond statutory requirements.

## Working with Government Partners

From the outset Heathfield has been working closely with the UK Government and industry partners to ensure a quick and safe response to guidelines and will continue to do so.



## **FAQ**

### **What does mass testing mean?**

Staff and pupils will have access to rapid testing from 8 March to help as many pupils as possible to continue to be able to attend School because that is what is best for their education and wellbeing.

We have been provided test kits through the Government scheme to facilitate initial testing for all staff and pupils. We will deliver the twice weekly testing for staff and pupils, once the initial three on site tests have been completed, we will issue the home testing kits for staff and pupils. Any pupil who cannot be tested at home, can be tested here at School.

### **Who will be doing the testing?**

We have carefully planned our testing to allow for as many staff to volunteer as possible. We have a COVID-19 co-ordinator who will help us to ensure the consistent and safe practice. All staff involved undertake full training and competency tests, provided by the Government.

### **Are the tests compulsory? Will my child be forced to take a test if I don't want them to? What if teachers and staff don't want to be tested?**

The tests are not compulsory. However, we urge all students and staff to consent to being tested regularly, as this is the best way to minimise the transmission of the virus, keep Heathfield open and keep everyone in our community safe.

Staff and students who experience COVID-19 symptoms must continue to follow Government guidance as normal, including immediate self-isolation and should book a test through [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus).

### **What if my daughter doesn't want to take the test?**

We can't recommend the testing highly enough; it allows us to minimise the risk to the community, keeping our pupils and staff as safe as possible. However, the tests are voluntary, therefore if your daughter does not wish to take the test she will have to maintain social distance at all times from her peers. If she is identified as a close contact of someone testing positive, she will need to self-isolate at home.

### **If staff or students have been vaccinated do they still have to be tested?**

Yes, they should be. Currently, the evidence is that vaccinated individuals can still be carriers of the virus. As more scientific testing comes to light this may change.

### **What if my daughter tested positive recently?**

If your daughter has recently had COVID-19, carried out her isolation and her result subsequently indicates that she is still positive, we will consult PHE on an individual basis and ask for their decision as to whether further isolation is necessary.

### **If my child has previously (within 90 days) had COVID does she still have to take part in testing?**

Your daughter does not have to undertake testing within the 90 days as it is recognised that they have some protection from the virus, but she can opt into testing. However, if she opts into testing and her test is positive on the Lateral Flow test then she **will** have to isolate. It should also be noted that if she is identified as a close contact she will still have to isolate.

**What if my daughter tests positive when she returns to School?**

If a positive result is received, your daughter will need to return home immediately for self-isolation. If she is an overseas boarder, arrangements will be made with her guardian. If this is not possible, full arrangements for isolation will be made in School. While PCR tests are not currently offered after a positive LFT result, it is possible to obtain these privately. Please contact us if you would like further information.

**My daughter is travelling to School by taxi. What will happen if she tests positive when she arrives at school?**

She will stay in our isolation area until such time as collection arrangements can be made.

**What will happen to my daughter if a close friend or someone she shares a room with tests positive?**

It is likely your daughter will be identified as a close contact. If she tests negative herself, she will still have to go into 10 day isolation.

**How long does the test take to work?**

The test should take no longer than 30 minutes to produce a result. We estimate that the whole process should take no longer than 50–80 minutes. We ask that those accompanying a returning boarder, or in the event of a day pupil being brought to School for a test before a school day, wait in the car with the pupil while awaiting the result and do not mix with others.

**Will my daughter be able to attend lessons if she is at home self-isolating?**

Yes, as long as she is well enough to do so. She can join in lessons via blended learning joining her lessons via Teams.

**We live abroad. Can my daughter be isolated in School if she tests positive?**

Due to the nature of our facilities, we are not able to offer en-suite accommodation. Therefore, it would be our preference that your daughter stays with her guardian to offer a more homely experience. However, we will of course always ensure your daughter is cared for and if no alternative is available, we will accommodate her in our isolation area.

**Is a confirmatory PCR test required?**

Once Covid prevalence status comes down the confirmatory PCRs will be reinstated - this is currently suspended for asymptomatic testing. Therefore, you will isolate if there is a positive test on the Lateral Flow Device when carried out as part of the asymptomatic testing on site. However, once staff and pupils move to home testing, any positive result should be followed up with arranging a free PCR test through the NHS.

**If my daughter receives a positive lateral flow test and then a negative PCR test can she return to school?**

If the PCR is negative she can return to School and adhere to all the other protocols in place such as social distancing.

**What will happen if my child's test result is positive or if a teacher tests positive?**

They will need to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace. This means:

- They will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test.
- You can stop self-isolating on day 11 if they haven't had a high temperature for 48 hours and are well.
- People they live with must self-isolate for 10 days from when they start self-isolating.

**And what if it is negative?**

Pupils will be able to carry on going to School and teachers will be able to carry on working.

**What type of test will be used?**

Lateral flow tests will be used in the first instance. These self-administered tests deliver a result within 30 minutes.