

1 March 2021

Dear parent/carer,

We are really looking forward to welcoming all our children back into school from 8 March. The latest government guidance regarding schools reopening week beginning 8 March can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964351/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf

There is no doubt that school is the best place for our young people and they need to return to some form of normality, enjoying being with their friends and getting back into their usual routines. Despite the sensationalist headlines citing the devastating effects on children, we have seen our students attending their remote lessons daily, building up resilience and learning the new skills of organisation and independence. While in no way wishing to undermine the impact of the pandemic, we will do everything we can to settle them back into school quickly and support their emotional and academic progress.

As all students are encouraged to be tested for Covid19 before their return to school, each year group will return on a specific day of the week.

Date of return to school	
Monday 8 March	Year 11
Tuesday 9 March	Year 10
Wednesday 10 March	Year 7
Thursday 11 March	Year 8
Friday 12 March	Year 9

Children of Key Workers

Those children who have been coming into school as key worker children will still be catered for during the week commencing 8 March and should continue to come into school.



Changes to live lessons

On the days before their return, Years 10 & 7 will have all their learning set on ShowMyHomework. There will be **no live lessons** on the Monday, or Tuesday for these year groups.

Years 8 & 9 will continue with their remote Teams lessons on Monday and Tuesday **only** and will have work set on ShowMyHomework on Wednesday and Thursday.

Form time meetings will be offered the day before each year group's return to answer any questions, check in with pupils and calm nerves. Form time will take place on Teams, starting at 8.50 am.

Form Group Assemblies	
Monday	Year 10
Tuesday	Year 7
Wednesday	Year 8
Thursday	Year 9

Covid Testing

In order to Covid test 180 students per day, each form group has been allocated a **specific time slot** for coming into school (please see appendix A). Testing will take place in the new Arts Centre and will be conducted by a team of staff and volunteers, all of whom have been trained to facilitate the testing. Upon arriving at school, students will be welcomed in the playground by a senior member of staff, who will guide them through the process and supervise them while they are waiting for their test results. Please ensure that your child comes to school for the start of their time slot e.g. if a pupil is in 11D they will return to school at 8.30 am prompt.

Masks

Following government guidance, all pupils and staff will be expected to wear a face mask inside at all times, including in lessons, where two metre distancing cannot be achieved. If your child is exempt (on the grounds of medical reasons only) please contact office@goldington.beds.sch.uk if you have not already informed us.

The wearing of masks will be reviewed by the government at Easter.

PE

Please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit on the days that they have PE lessons. Leggings, tracksuits and joggers should be dark, plain and without a brand.

Lunches

Lunches will be provided from **Tuesday 9 March** and will be staggered as they were before Christmas to enable year group bubbles to eat separately from one another. Year 11 will need to bring a packed lunch in on Monday.

Exercise Books

Any work your child has completed during lockdown e.g. in their school issued exercise books should be brought into school on the day your child returns. We will then collect and distribute these to their teachers as appropriate.

Year 11

Guidance around assessing Year 11s was made available late last week. Once we have digested the proposals and finalised our internal plans, we will communicate with all our Year 11 families. Please look out for this letter later in the week. Suffice to say, we will not be doing any formal assessments this side of Easter as we feel it is more important to get the students back in the classroom and settled without the additional pressure of tests. It would be wise however for your children to continue with a healthy balance of lessons, homework and focused revision.

I am conscious that there is a lot of information in this letter! Please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Ross if you have any questions that you need answering. (galbraithf@goldington.beds.sch.uk rossj@goldington.beds.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely



Francis Galbraith
Principal

Appendix A – Testing Rota

Monday 8 March Year 11	
8.30 – 9.15 am	11D
9.15 – 10.00 am	11H
10.00 – 10.45 am	11L
10.45 – 11.30 am	11M
12.30 – 1.15 pm	11N
1.15 – 2.00 pm	11S

Tuesday 9 March Year 10	
8.30 – 9.15 am	10G
9.15 – 10.00 am	10J
10.00 – 10.45 am	10L
10.45 – 11.30 am	10N
12.30 – 1.15 pm	10P
1.15 – 2.00 pm	10R

Wednesday 10 March Year 7	
8.30 – 9.15 am	7A
9.15 – 10.00 am	7C
10.00 – 10.45 am	7D
10.45 – 11.30 am	7H
12.30 – 1.15 pm	7M
1.15 – 2.00 pm	7S

Thursday 11 March Year 8	
8.30 – 9.15 am	8C
9.15 – 10.00 am	8E
10.00 – 10.45 am	8G
10.45 – 11.30 am	8H
12.30 – 1.15 pm	8J
1.15 – 2.00 pm	8L

Friday 12 March Year 9	
8.30 – 9.15 am	9A
9.15 – 10.00 am	9G
10.00 – 10.45 am	9L
10.45 – 11.30 am	9M
12.30 – 1.15 pm	9N
1.15 – 2.00 pm	9T