

**Crestwood Community School**  
**School Coronavirus Update - Monday 22nd February 2021**

Dear Parent/ Carer,

**Re-opening of Crestwood Community School Monday 8th March for all students,  
Years 7 to 11**

You will no doubt be aware that it has been announced that all students will return to school from Monday 8th March; we are so excited to be seeing everyone again!

The Government has made it clear that, from 8th March 2021, attendance will be compulsory, unless students are shielding due to medical conditions. Therefore, returning to school is not optional for the majority of our students and families.

The operational arrangements of the school will remain as they did in the Autumn Term, with designated entrances opening at 8.20am, staggered lunch and break arrangements, designated movement paths around the school site and different KS3 and KS4 ends to the school day.

On return students are expected to wear full school uniform, including black leather trainers or shoes. Please ensure all lockdown hair colours, cuts and piercings are moved back to being school compliant.

The last free school meal parcels will be delivered on or around Friday 26th February 2021, following that we will revert to meals in school as per normal.

The Government has long set out a requirement for students to wear masks in communal areas, **this has now been compulsorily extended to all lessons in classrooms**. The only time masks are not required are in practical PE lessons and when outside. It is therefore essential that you purchase masks for your child, which they carry on them at all times and wear appropriately. The [guidance](#) states:

“In addition, we now also recommend in those schools, that face coverings should be worn in classrooms or 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.

Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings. They may protect against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in reducing aerosol transmission when used without an additional face covering. They should only be used after carrying out a risk assessment for the specific situation and should always be cleaned appropriately. “

Some students, particularly SEND, may find returning to school a challenge after such a break from learning and routine. In these circumstances a phased return, during the week of

8th March, might be more appropriate. If this is the case key workers and pastoral staff will be in touch to discuss this.

### **Lateral Flow Testing before returning to school**

The Government has given us the opportunity to have a staged reopening from 8th March 2021 but we feel it is essential that we get all students back as soon as possible. However, there is a requirement that students now are tested **3 times, with the first negative test meaning students can return on the 8th March.**

As a result we are therefore commencing our testing earlier, from **Thursday 25th February** to ensure a full reopening, continuing this in the first week back. Testing is voluntary but, for the safety of all, we are encouraging as many students as possible to participate. The dates allocated are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Test 1</b>	<b>Test 2</b>	<b>Test 3</b>
7	Thursday 25th February, all day	Tuesday 2nd March, all day	Monday 8th March, all day
8	Friday 26th February, AM	Wednesday 3rd March, AM	Tuesday 9th March, AM
9	Friday 26th February, PM	Wednesday 3rd March, PM	Tuesday 9th March, PM
10	Monday 1st March, AM	Friday 5th March, AM	Wednesday 10th March, AM
11	Monday 1st March, PM	Friday 5th March, PM	Wednesday 10th March, PM

- Each student will receive an individual appointment time, sent to their school email account.
- **We ask that parents check these and remind students of the time they need to attend.**
- **Please set up an NHS account for your child by visiting [this site](#) as this will quicken our process, as each test needs to be registered with Test and Trace. We suggest using the students email account for Crestwood and a memorable password consisting of 8 letters and numbers. Please ensure students keep these safe. It also asks for a mobile phone number for test results and we suggest that these are the parents' numbers.**
- For the first two tests:
  - At Shakespeare, students will enter through the gate by St. Peters Church and at Cherbourg, through the main entrance.
  - On entry to the sites, all students will make their way to the Drama Rooms.
  - Students will register and make their way to be tested.
  - Students will exit via a one way route, with Shakespeare students leaving by the bike shed gate and Cherbourg students exiting via the student exit gate on Cherbourg Road.

- For the third test students will come out of their lessons at the designated time and attend the test centre, returning to class afterwards.
- To accommodate the testing it does mean that Drama classes will be relocated and the school hall at Cherbourg, used for dining, will be closed for the first three days of term.

After the first three tests, students will be offered the opportunity to undertake home testing, twice per week. This will require students to administer their own tests and for parents to share the results on the test and trace site online or via phone. We have also been asked to keep our testing centres open, to support students and staff who need additional help in carrying these tests out. We will share details of how to complete these home tests and how they will be accessed as soon as the government makes this information available.

I am sure that you, as we, are looking forward to the children coming back to school and resuming some sense of normality to our lives. However, it is essential that we continue to ensure we are observing social distancing, good hygiene and follow the rules laid out. Above everything it is essential that students keep a distance from each other at social times, which, to be frank, last term they found difficult. In addition it is essential that they only walk to and from school with one other person, until the end of the term, as per the guidance laid out today.

I hope that we can all play our part in keeping our community safe and by doing so, we will enjoy the freedoms laid out in the “roadmap” on 21st June and be able to hug our families once more.

Best wishes

**Krista Dawkins**  
**Headteacher**