

Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School

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11th August 2021

Dear Parent or Carer of Students New to On-site Testing at SHFGS,

I am delighted that all students will be able to return to school in the first week of reopening.

As per DfE guidance, it is our aim to complete two asymptomatic tests between the 3rd September and the 8th September. We are also aiming to complete all of the tests 3-5 days apart. It is likely that the new tests require a nose swab only (previous tests required nose and throat) so we are hopeful that this will be an easier test to take than before.

There may be circumstances, including staff or student absence, that will not allow us to complete every student's tests, by the 8th September or in three to five days. Where this is the case, we will make alternative arrangements to ensure all tests are offered by the 10th September.

It is also very important to remember that any student, who is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 does not attend the scheduled testing dates but instead requests a PCR test and begins a period of self-isolation. Similarly, if a student is already self-isolating during our test dates, they should not attend the testing programme or return to school and must continue to self-isolate. Terms of consent for those who have not taken part in testing at SHFGS before are on the consent form available here. The relevant Privacy Notice is attached with this email.

Students' first tests are to be carried out before or on the day that they attend face-to-face lessons as far as possible. If the test happens before your child's first day of lessons, they do not need to attend in school uniform. A negative test will mean that every student in the year group can join their peers in normal lessons the following day, as the table below illustrates:

Day/Date	School Activity	Year Groups attending Lessons in school	Year Groups attending first test slot in school
Wednesday 1st September	INSET – Staff Training	N/A	N/A
Thursday 2nd September	INSET – Staff Training	N/A	Years 7,12 & 8
Friday 3rd September	Timetabled lessons begin	Year 7 & 12 – new to the school only	Years 9,10 and 11
Monday 6th	Timetabled lessons	Years 7,11,12, & 13	Year 13

Those who are not being tested will return with their peer group on the dates above. I appreciate that this will mean significant disruption for some parents bringing children to school for testing, waiting for them and going home again. It will also mean some disruption to

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lessons. However, I hope you will again understand our position here and our attempts to minimise disruption to the start of term.

More detail on ATS can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings/rapid-asymptomatic-testing-in-specialist-settings-applies-from-step-4>

We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

Ms J Cochrane
Headteacher

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