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01/09/21

Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter will outline the arrangements for the return of students during the week beginning 6th September. As you will see, the return has been staggered throughout the week to allow for the implementation of mass rapid testing. Without staggering of this type, we would not be able to comply with Government guidance on the reopening of schools, which has been designed to ensure that students can return to lessons as quickly and as safely as possible.

Unfortunately, we cannot bring students in early (e.g. on Friday 3rd September) for testing, as some schools are doing. This is because, unlike many schools where a very high percentage of students walk or cycle to school, we have a huge number of students who would not be able to attend school for a few minutes and then leave to return home easily and safely, which is how early testing days would have to be run.

If you have any questions or concerns about the information below, please contact me at Farlingaye.

Dates and times of return

Students will return as follows:

Year Group	Date	Time
13	Monday, 6 th September	All students who can do so will come into school at 1.45 and go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students on buses who cannot come later in the day but can only attend at their normal time, will go straight to the library on their arrival and will remain there until 1.45. They will then take part in testing. Once students have been tested and their results has been confirmed, they can leave school, or can wait for their buses to depart. Their tutor sessions and lessons will begin on Tuesday 7 th at 8.55.

12	Monday, 6 th September	All students who can do so will come into school at 10.30 and go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students on buses who cannot come later in the day but can only attend at their normal time, will go straight to the library on their arrival and will remain there until 10.30. They will then take part in testing. Once students have been tested they will go to their tutor sessions. Lessons will begin that day at 1.45.
11	Tuesday 7 th September	All students who can do so will come into school at 10.30 and go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students on buses who cannot come later in the day but can only attend at their normal time, will go straight to the Gym on their arrival and will remain there until 10.30. They will then take part in testing. Once students have been tested they will go to the New Hall, where they will be given their timetables and journals. Once their results have been confirmed as negative, they will then go into lesson 2, or break, depending on the time.
10	Tuesday 7 th September	All students who are on buses will come into school at their normal time and will go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students who normally walk or cycle to school, or are given lifts, should delay their arrival until 9.30. On arrival, they will go straight to the area outside the Gym. Once students have been tested they will go to the New Hall, where they will be given their timetables and journals. Once their results have been confirmed as negative, they will then go into lesson 1.
9	Wednesday 8 th September	All students who are on buses will come into school at their normal time and will go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students who normally walk or cycle to school, or are given lifts, should delay their arrival until 9.30. On arrival, they will go straight to the area outside the Gym. Once students have been tested they will go to the New Hall, where they will be given their timetables and journals. Once their results have been confirmed as negative, they will then go into lesson 1.
8	Wednesday 8 th September	All students who can do so will come into school at 10.30 and go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students on buses who cannot come later in the day but can only attend at their normal time, will go straight to the Gym on their arrival and will remain there until 10.30. They will then take part in testing. Once students have been tested they will go to the New Hall, where they will be given their timetables and journals. Once their results have been confirmed as negative, they will then go into lesson 2, or break, depending on the time.
7	Monday, 6 th September	All students who are on buses will come into school at their normal time and will go straight to the area outside the Gym for testing. Students who normally walk or cycle to school, or are given lifts, should delay their arrival until 9.30. On arrival, they will go straight to the area outside the Gym. Once students have been tested they will then go into their tutor rooms, and will stay with their tutors for the rest of the morning. Lessons will begin at 1.45.

From the second day of their return, all year groups will follow the normal timings of the school day, which are as noted in our letter of 8th June, which is available on the [school website](#).

Testing

During last academic year, Farlingaye ran a Lateral Flow Test Centre for staff and students in school. Staff have therefore been trained, and have carried out the procedures necessary for testing with care and efficiency. We will now redevelop our testing provision in line with the Government's operational guidance for reopening this September, so that we are able to offer two in-school tests to each student over the first two weeks of opening. These tests should be carried out before students return to face-to-face work with their classmates and with staff, in order to identify any asymptomatic cases and so to protect and reassure the school community.

The schedule that we have designed to accomplish this is as follows:

Year Group	Test 1	Test 2
13	Mon 6 th 1.45-3.00	Thursday 9 th 1.45-3.00
12	Mon 6 th 10.30-12.15	Thursday 9 th 10.30-12.15
11	Tue 7 th 10.30-12.15	Friday 10 th 12.20-12.50; 1.30-3.00
10	Tue 7 th 8.45-11.00	Friday 10 th 8.45-11.00
9	Wed 8 th 8.45-11.00	Monday 13 th 8.45-11.00
8	Wed 8 th 10.30-12.15	Monday 13 th 10.30-12.15
7	Mon 6 th 8.45-10.30	Thursday 9 th 8.45-10.30

As I am sure you can appreciate, this testing programme is a huge undertaking for a school of our size and requires a great deal of investment in resources and staffing. We have benefitted already from the work of some parent volunteers, and would very much appreciate the input of some more volunteers over the next few weeks in order to complete this mammoth task. If you would like to volunteer, or would like to find out more about what this entails, please contact Mr Smith (psmith@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk).

Please remember that, in order for testing to take place, we need to have a statement of consent. If your child is in Y7 you will not yet have provided consent for testing for them. The information and the links required for providing consent are as follows:

Link to information

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#); [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow home test kit instructions for throat and nose test - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Link to ParentPay consent form

[ParentPay](#)

If you are unable to access ParentPay, please contact us (mail@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk).

Please note that, if your child is in Y12 and did not attend Farlingaye last year, we will need to obtain consent for testing from them. As they will be 16, Year 12 students can provide consent themselves and can do so on Monday 6th September in school. If you have any concerns about this, please do contact Ms Stuart, Head of Sixth Form (vstuart@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk). Please also note that, if

you do not wish to give consent for your Y7 child to be tested you do not need to notify us of non-consent. If your child in Y12 does not wish to give consent, they can inform us of this on Monday.

Government Guidance and School Risk Assessments

Please see the attached key documents (Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan) related to the school's implementation of recent [Government guidance](#) on safe reopening for schools. I have highlighted some key areas below:

Uniform

Students should be in [full uniform](#) when they return. If families need to replace uniform items, please note that non-specialist items, including shoes, are available in supermarkets, while specialist items can be ordered from Coes online: [Farlingaye High School \(coes.co.uk\)](http://Farlingaye High School (coes.co.uk)).

If you are struggling to replace uniform items for any reason, please contact your child's Year Co-ordinator.

Please note that, in order to comply with government guidance that asks schools to only use indoor spaces that can be effectively ventilated, we are continuing to limit the use of our PE changing rooms. **This means that students will be asked to wear PE kit on days when they have PE as a timetabled lesson, or are attending a PE club at lunchtime or after school.** They must wear full PE kit, following the uniform guidance. If a student is not wearing full PE kit on their arrival at school on days when they are asked to do so, they will go into Student Support until they are able to change into full kit.

Face Coverings

The wearing of face coverings in school is now optional. Students can choose to wear a face covering anywhere in the school environment.

'Bubbling' and breaks

There will be no formal 'bubbling' within school. However, year groups will continue to be assigned to specific fields for breaks and lunch.

Catering

The canteen will be fully open from the beginning of September. Students may continue to bring packed lunches to school if they wish.

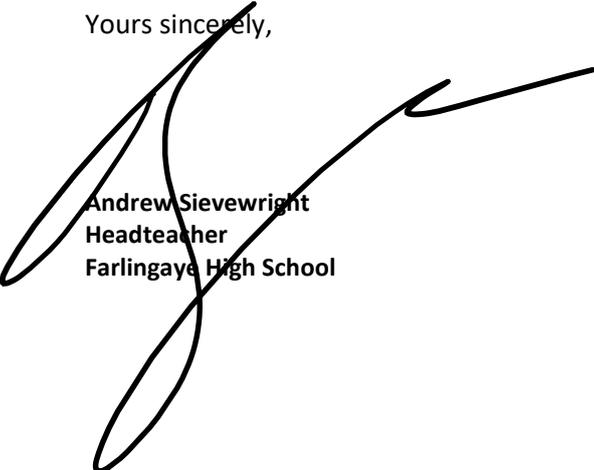
Additional Support

We are aware that much concern has been raised about how young people across the country have been affected by the events of recent months and will be putting in place additional support for those who need it. If you have any specific concerns about how your child will respond to being back in school, please contact your child's Year Co-ordinator.

I hope that all of the above information is clear. Please contact the school using addresses noted above if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to welcoming your child to the new year at Farlingaye.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Sievewright
Headteacher
Farlingaye High School