



Haygrove School

Durleigh Road, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7HW

Tel: 01278 455531 Fax: 01278 427972

www.haygroveschool.co.uk

Executive Headteacher/CEO – Mrs K Canham, BA (Hons), MA

Headteacher – Mr A Reid, BSc (Hons), MA

Thursday 31st December 2020

Coronavirus (Covid-19) - Update for Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you and to your family. I hope that you have had a wonderful Christmas and very much look forward to welcoming your children back to school in 2021.

Following guidance released by the Department for Education on 30th December, I have summarised the necessary changes we will introduce from 4th January. These changes are in keeping with the latest guidance and vary from my previous correspondence on 18th December. All secondary schools in England are required to change return dates for children in order to prepare for the delivery of testing for staff & students, and to support the national effort in reducing the transmission of Covid-19.

Return to School

4th January

- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers can return to school. Depending on the number of children who attend, students will be expected to follow their normal timetable. If you are one of these critical workers and believe that you will need to send your child into school, please would you email key@haygrove.somerset.sch.uk.
- Remote Education will commence for students in Year 11.
- It may be possible that other year groups may start to receive this support during the week. Please keep a check on SMHW for updates.

11th January

- Vulnerable children, children of critical workers can all attend school.
- Year 11 students are expected to attend school
- Remote Education will commence for all students in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10

18th January

- All children are expected to return to school

Shielding advice is currently in place in tier 4 areas, and so all children still deemed clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school.

Free School Meals

Children who are not eligible to attend, who are eligible for a benefits related free school meal will be offered a voucher. Information on [providing school meals during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) is available.

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Examinations

In these first two weeks, some students will be taking External assessments in Creative i-media, Engineering, Music BTEC and/or Sports Science. These exams **will proceed as normal** in line with guidance and those involved will be invited into school but will need to return home once completed.

Testing

All secondary schools in England will be provided with access to additional coronavirus testing in January. All students and staff will be offered tests and schools are expected to prepare for this in the week commencing 4th January. Testing will only commence from the week beginning 11th January and will remain optional; however, the guidance states that schools should 'strongly encourage' students and staff to have a test.

All students will be offered two Lateral Flow Device (LFD) rapid tests, spaced three to five days apart. LFD test results are available in around 30 minutes.

Staff will be offered one test in the first week and weekly thereafter as part of the longer-term routine testing programme

Anyone with a positive result will need to leave school, take a confirmatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test and follow the self-isolation guidelines (currently 10 days).

Staff or students who are in 'close contact' with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 can return to school if they agree to be tested for 7 days following their last contact with a positive case.

Further training will be available to schools on 4th & 5th January to support how we set up our school site, manage equipment, supplies, logistics, waste management, workforce training, consent, engagement, clinical compliance, incidents, outbreaks and recording results.

In order to conduct tests, parental consent is required. If you are happy for your child to be tested, please read the forms below and the enclosed consent statement (one per pupil/student) and confirm your consent on the ARBOR Parent App.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat.

Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with staff and students participating. Parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

In validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, LFDs were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

Testing will be offered free of charge.



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Registration

To process the test, we will register all participating students

To complete this registration please fill in the form below and complete the enclosed consent statement.

First Name	
Last Name	
Date of Birth	
Gender at birth	
Currently showing any COVID-19 symptoms?	
Today's date	
Home Postcode	
Email Address	
Mobile Number	



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Key Questions

What if a Student tests positive?

Participating staff and students who test positive will be informed about their results individually and parents or legal guardians will be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

Students will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). Haygrove School will be able to provide these PCR test kits to perform at home or you can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourselves, you should choose to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

During this time while they wait for the PCR result they will need to self-isolate.

If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

They will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A student will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What if a close contact at school/college tests positive?

A close contact of someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be able to return to school if they agree to be tested once a day for 7 days and the test is negative. If they do not want to take the test, they will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines. This does not apply to household members or close contacts outside of school who will still need to self-isolate. Further details will be provided at the time, but if you would prefer to self-isolate instead of doing daily testing, you can.

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What if my child symptoms?

develops

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. You can call the office on 01278 455531 or by using our online Enquiry Form on our website.

Yours faithfully,

Aaron Reid

Headteacher



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NHS Test and Trace consent form for COVID-19 testing

This common consent form has been designed for use by parents and guardians of pupils and under 16s, pupils and students over 16 and staff. Underlined sections should be read as applicable and completed as follows:

- **For pupils and students younger than 16 years** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to enroll.
- **Pupils and students over 16** can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- **Staff** will complete this form themselves.

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the school/college about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the letter dated [DD/MM/YYYY].
2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
3. I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for a lateral flow test.
4. I consent that my / my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
5. I understand that if my child / my result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the school/college except where they/you are a close contact of a confirmed positive.
6. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to my child having / having a nose and throat swab for confirmatory PCR testing, which shall be sent the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.
7. I consent that I / they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
8. I agree that if my / my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school / college and I understand that I / my child will be required to self-isolate

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following public

health advice.

9. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive but I / my child has tested negative, I / they will continue to attend school / college but will be tested every day at school / college for 7 days.

Name of pupil/student/staff to be tested (print)

Year group (if applicable)

Name of parent or guardian if under 16 (print)

Signature

Date

Relationship to child if under 16