

28th February 2021
Ref: GKA/JST



RUSHEY MEAD
ACADEMY

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Principal: Mrs G Kader

**CHANGE OF PLAN FOR TESTING. THIS NOW STARTS NEXT WEEK. PLEASE IGNORE
PREVIOUS LETTER**

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you are keeping safe and well.

The government has now made further changes to the when the testing can start for students, this means we can start testing next week. **Below you will find the revised details of the testing timetable.**

Rapid testing in schools will continue to remain a vital part of the Government's plan to suppress this virus. Rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD)s will support the return to face-to face education by helping to identify people who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.

We are now in a position to begin the Lateral Flow tests for students, **on the school site earlier than originally anticipated.** They will begin, for **year 9 students on Wednesday 3rd March** and will be done by form groups. Once the test is done, there is no need to wait for the result, the students can go home as they will be notified of results.

9.00 - 9.15	9BEM
9.15 - 9.30	9BER
9.30 - 9.45	9BES/9CHM
10.00 - 10.15	9BOS
10.15 - 10.30	9CHR
10.30 - 10.45	9HAM
10.45 - 11.00	9HAR
11.00 - 11.15	9HAS/9MES
11.15 - 11.30	9MER
11.30 - 11.45	9RUR/9MEM

Although testing remains voluntary it is strongly recommended. It will help to keep all students, families and the community safe by the swift identification of the virus and prevent its further spread.

If you have not already given consent for your child, you can do so by [clicking here](#).

If consent is provided, pupils will be asked to self-swab at the on-site testing area. Members of trained staff will be on site to help advise your child on how to administer the test. If your child tests positive, you will be informed as soon as we receive the result. If there is a positive test, you will then need to book your child into a main testing site for a confirmation test and follow the isolation rules. You will receive confirmation of a negative test via the NHS track and trace via email or text later in the day. Any students who have tested positive will continue to receive their school work remotely and will be expected to complete it whilst absent from school so that they do not miss out on their education.

Students will return home following their test as school is not yet open and they do not need to wear uniform.

When students arrive for the test, they will enter through the main gates on Melton Road and go to the Sports Café entrance, over the bridge. On entering the Sports Café, they will register and then follow the directions to the testing site. After the test, they will leave the site directly via the side gate near to the Library and out again through the main gates. Parents will not be able to accompany students to the test but can wait at the main gate.

The remainder of the test schedule will be as follows. Students will come out of their lessons and be told to go for a test at set times and then return back to class to wait for their result.

Year Group – SCHOOL OPEN AS USUAL FROM MONDAY 8 TH MARCH TO ALL STUDENTS.	08-Mar Monday	09-Mar Tuesday	10-Mar Wednesday	11-Mar Thursday
Yr 7 am		T2		
Yr 7 pm				T3
Yr 8 am				T3
Yr 8 pm	T2			
Yr 9 am	T2			
Yr 9 pm			T3	
Yr 10 am			T3	
Yr 10 pm				
Yr 11 am				
Yr 11 pm		T3		

As we have now changed our plans, ALL students will return to school, in full uniform, on Monday 8th March for normal face to face timetable.

Below is a reminder of the timings of our school day.

	Entrance / Exit Area	Student arrival on site	Lesson Start Time	Lesson Finish Time
Year 7	Main gate at front of school - Melton Road	8.10am	8.15am	2.55pm
Year 8	Main gate at front of school - Melton Road	8.25am	8.30am	3.10pm
Year 9	Main gate at front of school - Melton Road	8.45am	8.50am	3.30pm
Year 10	Back gate at the rear of school – Rushey Close	8.25am	8.30am	3.20pm
Year 11	Back gate at the rear of school – Rushey Close	8.45am	8.50am	4.00pm Mon-Thurs only. 3.30pm Friday only Additional Maths students ONLY on site until 4.00pm on Friday.

Home testing

After the initial programme of three tests in school, students will be supplied with LFD test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a week at home. Students must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. **Students should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with us to help with contact tracing and a link for this will be sent on the day the home tests are given out.**

Students with a positive LFD test result will need to self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result if the test was done at home. You can go to any of the Covid-19 testing sites to get this test done by booking an appointment online, [click here](#).

Thank you for your support.



**MRS GULBANU KADER
PRINCIPAL**