

COVID 19 Update – Final reminder on the wider re-opening of schools

Sixth Form

Dear parents and carers,

This message includes information on:

- Timings of the school day.
- Use of a variety of entrance and exit points across the campus.
- Use of face coverings.
- Availability of regular testing for households of secondary school-aged children.
- Transport to and from school.

I write, as promised in Mr Watson's message last Friday, to provide final logistical details in advance of your child's return to school on Thursday.

Sixth Form timetabled lessons begin tomorrow after break at 11:20am (period 3), lessons on Friday also start from 11:20am onwards. This will allow a staggered start and safe return for all students, with normal timetabled lessons resuming the following week. Sixth form students will have the opportunity to be welcomed back and discuss any changes and expectations with their teachers in their first lesson. Students can also visit the sixth form centre should they have any worries with the transition of returning to school. For the remainder of term 4 until Easter, students do not have to attend TU time, however if they would like to use the ISC in between lessons they are very welcome.

Students will not be required to attend their core lessons this term. We will continue to send the lessons out via Show my Homework so students can view the content at home. Core teachers will be available during all sessions and if students would like a one to one, or small group tutorial, they should email their teacher:

Mr Hadlow shadlow@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Winslow lwinslow@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mr Fox tfox@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mr Bonugli lbongli@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Morse rmorse@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Vinn evinn@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mr Relf prelf@canterbury.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Watson swatson@canterbury.kent.sch.uk

Our colleagues in the Community Safety Unit of Kent Police have asked us to remind parents of the importance of children following current COVID guidance on their journey to and from school. Please encourage your child to make their way straight to and from school at the beginning and end of the school day, and avoid meeting socially with their peers in public places.

To avoid unnecessary congestion across the campus, sixth form students should leave the school site after their final lesson of the day and not congregate in any social spaces. From 4pm onwards students should either be in lessons or should be safely making their way home. Please continue to send your child in with their ID and lanyard, so we can identify all sixth form students on the school site. They should tap in an out using their lanyard at the main entrance, whenever they enter or leave the school site.

Along with reminders about hygiene, sanitising, one-way systems and social distancing requirements, teachers will inform students of the Government's amended recommendations on the use of face coverings. As you may recall from my previous message, the Government now recommends that in

addition to ***'moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas, where social distancing cannot easily be maintained'***, face coverings should also be worn ***'in classrooms or during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained'***. Whilst we have a small stock of disposable masks available in school, please endeavour to send your child to school with their own reusable face covering each day. If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please ensure they visit Mrs Evans or Ms Mowbray on Sixth Form main reception before their lessons begin, so they can allocate an exemption. We will then ensure staff are aware of all those who are exempt.

Another of the Government's key strategies surrounding the wider reopening of schools is access for families to Rapid Lateral Flow Testing. We are currently undertaking in-school testing across Years 7 to 14 with those who have given their consent. To all those who have taken part in this testing process, we are grateful for your patience and positivity during this unusual procedure.

In addition to the testing of our student population, from 1st March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble, or support bubble of a student, you can also access a twice-weekly test. If you would like further information about this facility please visit the appropriate section of the Government's website by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

In summary, you are able to access this testing:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees.
- at a local test site.
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site.
- by ordering a home test kit online.

Anyone aged 18 or over can collect the tests from a local collection point which, in Canterbury, are: Canterbury Christ Church University - Car Park Gate 6 North Holmes Road and University of Kent - Rutherford Car Park. Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm and you can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment.

Finally, I have been informed by Stagecoach bus company that they are increasing their services around the district to enable students to travel to and from school. The dedicated school buses, which leave from site at the end of the day, have been reinstated, so your child will be able to use these, as normal, upon their return. If you require additional information about a particular route, please visit the Latest Timetables page on the Stagecoach website <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/national/covid-temporary-timetables> for more information.

Apologies, once again, for the length of this message, but I felt it was important to provide this full range of detail in advance of your child's return. I look forward to seeing them from Thursday!

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Winslow

Head of Sixth Form