

Guilsborough Academy

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust

3 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Our Return to Learning

I hope you and your families have had a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

Over the past few days, the Department for Education has announced new rules which will be in place for our return to learning this week. As you already know, all students will be tested before they go back into their normal lessons this week. This means a staggered start and I have copied the details below for your convenience.

Tuesday 4 January Years 11, 12 and 13 to return to the academy. All

other year groups will be taught remotely via MS

Teams.

Wednesday 5 January Years 7 and 10 to return alongside years 11, 12 and

13. Years 8 and 9 will be taught remotely.

Thursday 6 January All students return to face-to-face learning

In line with the announcement on Monday 2 January, all students, except those who are exempt on medical grounds, will also be required to wear a face mask in lessons. This will be in place until 29 January, although the Department for Education have suggested this will be reviewed.

All students are expected to bring their own masks in from home. The Department for Education is providing schools with a relatively small number of masks for use if students forget to bring theirs to school.

Changes to the self-isolation rules

The rules for those who test positive have changed. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you must self-isolate for 7 days. You should take a lateral flow test of days 6 and 7 and if these are both negative then you may return to work/school.

If you live with someone who has tested positive but you are fully vaccinated, or you are under 18 years and 6 months old, you may continue to attend work/school but should take a lateral flow test each day for 7 days and self-isolate if any of these test results is positive.

If you live with someone who has tested positive and you are not vaccinated, you must self-isolate for 10 days.

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Planning for increased staff absence

Recent advice from the Government is that organisations should be planning for up to 25% staff absence. As you will understand, schools do not have the capacity to instantly replace large numbers of teaching staff, and this was the reason for our very limited remote learning last term. The support we received from the community when we had to do this was very much appreciated.

While maintaining face-to-face learning is and always will be my priority, we must do so safely.

I am looking forward to our students starting the process of returning to school. All students will be taught over the next three days, whether this is face-to-face or remotely. I thank you in advance for the part you play in making sure those working from home are engaging with their learning.

Yours faithfully

Mr/S Frazer Principal