Return to school testing calendar



**Year 10 and 11 will be tested on Friday 5th, Tuesday 9th and Friday 12th**

* 10-1, 10-2 arrive at 9.00am
* 10-3, 10-4 arrive at 9.30am
* 10-5, 10-6, 10-7 and Bridge arrive at 10.00am
* 11-1, 11-2 arrive at 11.15am
* 11-3, 11-4 arrive at 11.45am
* 11-5, 11-6, 11-7 and Bridge arrive at 12.15pm

**Year 7, 8 and 9 will be tested on Monday 8th, Thursday 11th and Monday 15th**

* 7-1, 7-2 arrive at 9.00am
* 7-3, 7-4 arrive at 9.30am
* 7-5, 7-6, 7-7 arrive at 10.00am
* 8-1, 8-2 arrive at 11.15am
* 8-3, 8-4 arrive at 11.45am
* 8-5, 8-6, 8-7 and Bridge arrive at 12.15pm
* 9-1, 9-2 arrive at 2.00pm
* 9-3, 9-4 arrive at 2.30pm
* 9-5, 9-6, 9-7 and Bridge arrive at 3.00pm

**You do not need to be in school uniform for the test**

**Return to full school: 17th March – full school uniform**

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25th February 2021

# Return to school: Information

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family are safe and well and that you have had a restful half-term. The government has given schools permission to start bringing students back into education from the week of the **8th March**. I would like to set out our plans around this.

## School return dates

The Academy is expected to offer all students three COVID-19 tests on their return to school. These tests will take place during the period 5th – 15th March. As such, the Academy will continue to offer a remote learning programme and pupils will not be expected to return to the Academy until **Wednesday 17th March**. Our remote learning plans mean that students will not be disadvantaged by continuing to learn in this way.

## Arrival to school

When students return to the Academy, they will enter the building in the same way that have been doing, but there is an important change to the timing for Years 9 and 11.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year group | Arrival point | Time of arrival | Usual finish time |
| Year 7 | line up in the MUGA | 8:45am | 2:55pm |
| Year 8 | Line up in the covered yard | 8:45am | 2:55pm |
| Year 9 | Line up in the courtyard | 8:55am | 3:05pm |
| Year 10 | line up in the MUGA | 8:55am | 3:05pm |
| Year 11 | Line up in the courtyard | 8:45am | 3:55pm [Period 6] |

## Uniform

I must remind you that all students are expected to attend the Academy in full uniform. These challenging times require high and consistent expectations and we believe that uniform gives a sense of ‘belonging’. By dressing correctly students can show pride in their academy. The uniform requirements can be found here: <http://cedarmount.manchester.sch.uk/parents-carers/parents-carers-information/uniform/>.

## Attendance

School attendance will be mandatory for all students and I must remind everyone that it is a parents’ duty to secure their child’s regular attendance at school. Should you have any concerns around your child attending the Academy please contact the progress leaders for your child’s year group immediately. We are very happy to provide reassurance on the measures we are putting in place to reduce any risks.

## Safety in school

The new guidance requires masks to be worn at all times indoors (including lessons when social distancing cannot be maintained). All other systems of control will continue, including

* Handwashing/sanitising before all lessons
* Year group bubbles in lessons and at break and lunch
* The cleaning of all surfaces throughout the day
* Individual equipment packs for students
* The cleaning of any shared equipment
* A bistro rota and food ordering opportunities

## Student/Parent information event

We will be running an online information event to explain all of these system in more details on **Monday 1st March** at 2.05pm. Parents/Carers will be able to attend the session via their child’s Teams account and we expect student to attend as well. This will give parents/carers the opportunity to ask questions about the Academy’s return. The session will be recorded and uploaded to our website for those people unable to make the event.

## NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for students

We are working to keep the Academy as safe as possible. You may have heard that testing for those without corona virus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as ‘lateral flow tests.’

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to return to the Academy safely. Up to one third of people who have had corona virus experienced no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spreading and help keep the Academy open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

We are aiming to test all students from **Friday 5th March 2021**. Students will be issued with a **date and time** to attend the Academy for testing. The Government has indicated that schools should open for students from 8th March, however, we will be using a transitional period to test as many students as possible to ensure the return to the Academy is as safe as possible. Remote learning will continue during this time.

If you are happy for your child/children to be tested, please complete the attached consent form and return to the Academy in the stamped, addressed envelope enclosed. The form is also located in the green ‘forms’ section of the Edulink app under ‘Personal’.

Those taking the test will be expected to attend on a specified date, at a specified time and will be supervised by trained staff. **We will inform you of this date and time as soon as possible**. The ‘lateral flow’ tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat. For under 18s, staff will oversee the swab process.

Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with parents and pupils via an NHS text message.

We know these tests work - in validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, they were shown to be highly accurate. 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.

# Registration

To process the test, we will register all participating staff and students.

To complete this registration please **complete the attached consent form** and add the name of each child you wish to be tested. **Please post it to us by Monday 1st March.**

By completing the consent form you are indicating you agree to the linked privacy statement <http://bfet.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Covid-Privacy-Notice.pdf>

# What if a test is positive?

Participants who test positive, will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will be notified of the next steps from NHS test and trace.

# What happens if the test is negative?

Participants will be able to stay in the Academy and resume their activities as normal once the Academy is fully open. Participants 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 participants may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

# What if I do not consent to testing?

If you do not want your child to take the test they may return to the Academy as normal. If, however your child is identified as a close contact to somebody who tests positive for Covid-19, they will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines. Completion of the consent form indicates that you are happy for your child to be tested should we feel this would minimise risk of transmission.

# What if a participant develops symptoms?

This testing programme at the Academy is for people with no symptoms. If a participant 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 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) 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 0161 248 7009 or you can email office@cma.bfet.uk.

Yours faithfully,



K G Hodgson

Principal