



12 March 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Guardians

I am writing to provide you with a brief update on the return to school this week.

Of course the most important aspect of the return to school has been the resumption of face to face learning in the normal classroom environment. I have been able to visit many lessons this week and it has been great to see how focussed the students are and to see them enjoying interactions with their teacher and fellow classmates. Our focus for the rest of this term is on getting students back into good learning routines, to remind them of behaviour expectations and to provide as many opportunities for them to succeed as possible. We know that wearing face masks/coverings in lessons is challenging but we hope that we will be able to review this in just over two weeks time. The spirit shown by students this week has been strong and they really are demonstrating our Lord Grey Can mantra.

I am pleased to say that the arrangements for testing have gone very well and over the course of the last few days we have tested 85% percent of the school population and some are now on their second test. Of these tests we only had 1 positive result and 3 void results and we feel confident that students are quickly learning how to administer the test to themselves. This will be important as at the end of next week students will move to testing at home where they will need to know exactly what to do. We are really pleased that 95% of parents have given their consent so far and although the testing is voluntary, we really encourage you to take part. The test is easy to do and I think the students who have taken it so far would say that it wasn't as bad as they thought it might have been! So if you haven't yet given consent but now wish to, then please complete this [form](#).

Parents and other adults living in the same household as school age children can also take part in home testing. Test kits can be collected from Bletchley library (1pm-7pm 7 days a week), various other locations within Milton Keynes and by post. The test kits are the same as those used in school and will identify positive cases in people who show no symptoms. Details about this scheme can be found at [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests](#) Please remember that home testing is only to be used when no symptoms are shown. If someone in your household has Coronavirus symptoms then you should isolate and book a test. It is also important to remind parents that if your child has symptoms of Coronavirus then you should not send them to school. You and your household will need to isolate and book a test.

As you will be aware we are still under National lockdown conditions and the local Public Health team have asked that I forward an important letter to you as a reminder of what the rules are. The letter can be read [here](#).

We know that as we return to school there is a period of adjustment for students, families and teachers alike and we recognise that while many students will quickly fall back into the school routine, others might take a little longer. Please remember that if the return to school is proving challenging there is lots of support here at school and your child's form tutor is the best starting point. Please do not hesitate to make contact.

Thank you for your continuing support of Lord Grey Academy.

Yours sincerely

Jim Parker
Principal.

