

Dear Parents/Carers

[www.saviosalesiancollege.com](http://www.saviosalesiancollege.com)

I am writing to you today to outline the plan that I have put in place for all pupils from Year 7 to Year 11 to return to school from the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

The Government and its scientific advisers have now declared it to be safe for all pupils to go back into school whilst still maintaining the rules of good hygiene and social distancing with the following additional recommendations:

- Schools test pupils using Lateral Flow Tests three times over their first 2 weeks back in school
- Parents then test pupils weekly using home test kits that will be provided through school (guidance will be issued with the kits)
- Staff test weekly using the same home test kits
- Staff and pupils wear face coverings in the school buildings where social distancing is not possible **including** in classrooms. Those who are exempt should provide medical evidence to support this.

**Based upon this government guidance we will manage the return of pupils to the school site as follows:**

- Up to and including Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 all pupils (apart from key worker and vulnerable children) will continue to be taught remotely
- Parents should now complete [this form](#) to provide consent for their child to take the required Lateral Flow Tests
- On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March all pupils should attend the school site at the timings below to have the first of their lateral flow tests. Pupils will attend the school site, have the test and then make their way home immediately afterwards.
- The school will only contact parents if a child tests positive, if you have not received notification of a positive test within an hour of the test being taken you should assume the test was negative
- By testing all pupils/staff on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March we will be able to safely reopen the site so that **all pupils return to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30am** unless they have received a positive test result in which case they should follow government advice

**Testing times for those travelling by foot / cycle / car**

**The site will be open from 8am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March for testing only.** We ask that pupils who walk/travel by car/cycle to school attend between **8.00am-8.20am** or

**9.30am to 12.30pm.** If a later appointment is required this can be facilitated but please make contact with the school to let us know what time you can attend.

### **Testing times for those travelling by school bus**

School buses will run as normal to take pupils who normally travel this way so they arrive on site at 8.30am. Pupils using the bus will be asked to make their way off-site and home immediately after taking the test. **Buses will not be available for the homeward journey** so parents should make arrangements for their child to get home after the test. Pupils should not congregate either on school site or in the community after testing as this would break social distancing and bubble rules.

**On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March there will be work set online for pupils through MS Teams** to complete while not on the school site but there will be **no 'live lessons'** as staff will be involved in testing and planning in school.

### **Home Testing**

Following three on-site lateral flow tests upon the initial return to school, pupils will be offered home testing kits to conduct lateral flow tests twice per week. If your child takes part in these tests, results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace, either online or by telephone, and should be shared with the school.

Pupils aged 12 to 17 should self-test and report their results under the supervision of an adult; pupils aged 11 should have their tests conducted by an adult. Where pupils are unable or unwilling to self-test, the school will have a small test site where we can test pupils, or supervise pupils to self-test.

If your child tests negative in the lateral flow tests, they can continue to attend school, unless they start to display symptoms of coronavirus.

If your child receives a positive lateral flow test result, they should begin to self-isolate immediately, and book a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test which can be done at an NHS testing site, or via a home PCR test. In rare circumstances where your child cannot obtain a PCR test from a testing site, the school has a small supply. Please get in touch with the school office if you cannot access a testing site or order a home testing kit.

We appreciate all of your efforts made to conduct these tests, and thank you for your ongoing support in helping to create a safer school environment for our community.

### **Rules and procedures in school**

To support pupils returning to school and make the transition back to on-site learning please ensure read through the following bullet points and ensure pupils have the correct equipment and uniform upon their return.

- **Full school uniform** is to be **worn at all times**, including black shoes that can be polished. [View uniform details here.](#)

- Previously I have allowed pupils to wear PE kit on the day they had PE. **This will no longer be allowed** and **all** pupils **must** bring PE kit in their school bag on days where they have a PE lesson.
- Although mobile phones are allowed into school they must be switched off at all times and kept inside the blazer pocket
- All pupils must come to school fully equipped, including a pencil case, which can be [purchased via ParentPay](#) and collected from Student Services if required

We will continue to operate in school as we have done since September, **this means from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March:**

- The school day begins at 8.30am and pupils will go straight into lesson 1 so please ensure that they arrive into school by 8.20am at the latest. Last lesson will end at 2.45pm when school buses depart for home.
- All year groups will be organised back into their “bubbles” which will be the same as when pupils were last in school in December 2020. For most lessons, therefore, pupils will remain in place and the teachers will move to them.
- There will still be separate entrance and exit points – Years 11 and 9 will enter and leave through the main school gate whilst Years 7, 8 and 10 will do the same via the side gate
- Each year group will have its own designated playground
- Lunch will be delivered to classrooms (including one hot meal per week)

We look forward to welcoming the pupils back to school and hopefully over time returning to normality.

Yours faithfully

Mr T Costello  
Headteacher