

Dear parents/carers and students,

Following on from my letter earlier this week I am now in a position to give you some further information about the return to face-to-face teaching for all students and for students in Years 11 and 13, some further information in relation to the awarding of grades this summer.

Apologies in advance for the length of this letter home; as seems to be ever the norm, there is a lot of change ahead!

Lateral Flow Testing

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have already provided consent for participation in Lateral Flow Testing for their child. Thank you also to the post 16 students who have also completed their consent forms.

Along with other protective measures that we are taking, these tests will help staff and students remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in our school and wider community.

If you have not yet completed the consent form it can be found [here](#):

Timetable for Testing and the Return to Face-to-Face Teaching

As I stated in Tuesday's letter home, our primary aim is to get students back into classrooms as quickly and safely as possible. In light of this we are adopting the following Lateral Flow Testing timetable and arrangements. I am aware that this may not suit every family, and I thank you in advance for your support in what you can imagine has caused some logistical difficulties!

In the Testing Schedule below, you will see that there is a testing slot for each year group and that testing will begin on Thursday 4th March and ends on Monday 8th March. ***This means that the first day of face-to-face teaching for ALL year groups is Tuesday 9th March.***

Testing Schedule for Student's First Lateral Flow Test

Year Group	Day	Slot	Timings
Years 12 and 13	Thursday 4 th March	Afternoon	12 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.
Year 11	Thursday 4 th March	Morning	8.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
Year 10	Friday 5 th March	Morning	8.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
Year 9	Friday 5 th March	Afternoon	12 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.
Year 8	Monday 8 th March	Morning	8.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
Year 7	Monday 8 th March	Afternoon	12 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.

An on-line booking system will go live to parents/carers on Monday 1st March. A text message and short email will alert you to when this becomes open.

On the day of test, students should only come to school for the test; once this is completed, they should return home for the rest of the day. Parents and carers can wait in the Garden Lane car park whilst students have their test, however, please can we remind everyone for the need to sustain social distancing measures at this time.

On arrival for their test, students should make their way to the Garden Lane car park, where our test centre will be clearly signposted.

If it is not possible for your child to get to school during their year group's allocated slot, please contact admin@shs.starmat.uk and we will do our best to schedule a test.

Students' second and third tests will be carried out during the school day, once students return to face-to-face teaching and all students will have received their third on-site test by Tuesday 16th March. More details about the move to home testing will follow shortly.

I would strongly encourage students to be tested, but the test is voluntary, and all students can return to school on Tuesday 9th March, whether they have been tested or not.

Remote Learning

Our current remote learning timetable will remain as planned for next week. Staff are aware, however, that from Thursday 4th March that submission of work and participation in live lessons will be disrupted whilst students attend their first on-site lateral flow test.

On Monday 8th March, as all staff return to school, attend updated Risk Assessment Training and prepare for face-to-face teaching for all from Tuesday 9th March, there may be some minor disruption to the previously published live lesson timetable. I apologise in advance for this, but I am sure you can appreciate the necessity in ensuring we are ready for Tuesday 9th March.

On-Site Provision

Can any parents/carers whose children are currently accessing on-site provision contact admin@shs.starmat.uk by 11 a.m. on Wednesday 3rd March to book a slot for on-site provision on Monday 8th March.

Please note, that due to our preparations for the wider opening of school, that provision will be reduced on Monday 8th March, and I would urge parents/carers to only book this provision if it is essential.

Important Information for Students in Years 11 and 13

Yesterday Ofqual confirmed that students will receive grades determined by schools; students will only be assessed on what they've been taught and no algorithm will be used. Further information on the [announcement](#) can be found here.

Parents/carers and students may also find the following [infographic](#) on the awarding of GCSEs/A levels useful as well as the [infographic](#) on the awarding of Vocational and Technical qualifications.

Schools and colleges will submit their Centre Assessment Grades to exam boards by 18th June 2021 to maximise teaching time. Normally students receive their results in mid to late August, but this year A-level/Level 3 VTQ students will receive their results on 10th August 2021 and GCSE/Level 2 VTQ students will receive theirs two days later on 12th August 2021.

We are busy reviewing our road map to the summer, and as soon as we are able to share it with families and students we will do. The road map will include details about further assessment opportunities, end of year celebrations and the appeals process.

In the meantime, students in Years 11 and 13 will have received their PPE 2 timetables. I do hope that preparations for this assessment point is going well, and would like to remind students that this is only piece of the assessment evidence that we will use in awarding Centre Assessment Grades. It really is a case of students digging deep, and continuing to take every day and every lesson seriously – they have done brilliantly so far, stunned us with their resilience and I look forward to celebrating some excellent PPE 2 results and Centre Assessment Grades with them. They will be very much deserved!

Drug awareness

We have been made aware of a drugs warning from North Yorkshire Police.

Police have issued an urgent warning about dangerous and illegal drugs, believed to be LSD, after officers became aware of five young people from the Colburn area recently seeking hospital treatment.

Enquiries are ongoing to identify the source and supply of the drug - which is in the form of small black paper squares with a red flash design - but officers are extremely concerned that others may have taken or are going to take it.

Inspector Mark Gee, of Richmondshire Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "Our message is clear: these drugs are inherently dangerous, particularly when taken with other substances including alcohol. It is illegal and could have serious consequences. If you or anyone you are with have taken illicit substances and become unwell, please seek appropriate medical attention as soon as possible."

"Illegal drugs often contain different substances, making it impossible to visually identify what they are, or how strong they are. The effects of this hallucinogenic can be strong, unpredictable and overwhelming to the user, as seen with the hospitalisation this week of a number of young people locally."

Anyone with information about these drugs is asked to contact North Yorkshire Police on 101 quoting reference number 12210064362, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

And finally...

The sun is shining, and I know my heart is filled with joy at being able to write to you about Team Sherburn once again being reunited on our site! Thank you as always for your on-going support and the fantastic participation by students in our Remote Learning offer...not long left Team Sherburn, not long left!

Yours sincerely,

Miriam Oakley
Headteacher

Sherburn High School