

10 December 2021



Saffron Walden County High School

Saffron Academy Trust

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Executive Headteacher:
Ms Caroline Derbyshire MA (Cantab)

Headteacher:
Ms Polly Lankester MA (Cantab)

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 8 Students,

Looking ahead to January, the Government have said that students need to be tested on the school site before returning to school. They have advised that we should therefore stagger students' return, to allow time for this testing. The testing will follow the same format as September i.e. students coming into school at a designated time (see below), undertaking a simple self-administered swab, and then leaving the site immediately. Assuming they test negative, students will return to school on the next school day (with the exception of some Year 12 students). We are sorry for the disruption this will cause to families at the beginning of next term but, by using our training day and by prioritising exam year groups and the youngest students, we hope to keep this disruption to a minimum.

We will be able to use the **consent** that you previously provided in September. If you wish to withdraw this consent, [please click here and complete the withdrawal of consent form](#) by 9am on Monday 13th December. **Please also use this form to indicate if your child has had a positive PCR test since 4th October – if they have tested positive within 90 days of this onsite testing, they should not be tested.**

I can therefore confirm that Year 8 students will be tested on **Wednesday 5th January** before returning to school on **Thursday 6th January 2022**. Maths teachers will be setting some independent Maths work on Teams to keep students occupied at home on Wednesday before or after their test. They should also do some reading for pleasure.

Below are the times when each tutor group will have their test. Please make a note of these timings. Students should arrive on site five minutes before their slot via the Copperfields entrance. This time, the **testing is taking place in the lower floor of the Sports Hall** (please will students wear trainers to protect the sports hall floor). When walking in, students should walk down the external Sports Hall steps to queue. After their test, students will leave the site immediately (again, using the Copperfields exit). In the event of a positive test, a member of staff would contact parents on the day of the test.

Wednesday 5th January	
9:30	8KK
9:40	8EXC
9:50	8LD
10:00	8JAA
10:10	8CJ
10:40	8PZL
10:50	8MTH
11:00	8SL
11:10	8JHD
11:20	8CWS

Thank you for your support with this important measure to help make the return to school in January as safe and as smooth as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Norman', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Norman
Deputy Headteacher