

01 April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to thank you once again for supporting our smooth return to working back on site together. We have been delighted with how well students have settled back to their studies and it is very clear that they have enjoyed being with their peers at social times.

It has been a very different spring term! We can all be very proud of what we have achieved: from remote learning and becoming more skilled in the use of technology to getting used to working together on-site safely.

This letter communicates important information so please read very carefully.

Those students for whom consent has been granted for lateral flow tests in school have responded with maturity and have conducted themselves incredibly well. Please congratulate them on how well they have managed this.

Lateral Flow Testing at Home

With regard to the self-testing process, now that those students involved in the on-site testing have practised how to carry out the tests, the process moves to one that is carried out at home. Students for whom we have consent have been issued with self-testing kits and instructions. If this is relevant to your child(ren), please continue to discuss with them and ensure that two tests are completed each week, during the Easter break. We have also recorded a video to help students carry out the test and log their results; this can be found on Frog.

To help our families for whom English is not a first language, there are also instructions in Urdu and Arabic.

Home tests must be carried out twice per week; once on Monday and then again on Thursday. All positive results **must be reported to school** and there is information on how to do this contained in the home test kit.

The government has asked that schools support the contact tracing process over the holiday period. Therefore, if your child receives a positive COVID-19 test result, you must inform us of this as soon as possible. Please email a copy of the positive result to attendance@levenshulmehigh.co.uk. We may need to contact you over the holidays to fulfil this government request as we trace contacts and notify you of any self-isolation periods that are required.

PCR and LFD testing during Ramadan

For many of our families Ramadan will begin soon. The Department for Education has shared with us with the following information:

“The British Islamic Medical Association’s view is that taking polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or lateral flow device (LFD) tests during Ramadan does not invalidate the fast.

People may feel more comfortable doing the tests when they are not fasting. In this case, with the move to home-testing, tests can be carried out at any time”.

Attendance

Due to the national lockdowns and, for some students, the need for bubbles to be closed, attendance this year has been disrupted. It is therefore more important than ever that students attend school every day; this is both a legal requirement and the right thing to ensure students continue with their personal and academic development. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday 19 April 2021.

Timings of the School Day

Since September 2020, to facilitate a safe and smooth start and end to the school day, we have staggered the timings. This has meant that some lessons have been shorter than others. We now know that students can enter and leave the school site in a safe and timely way. As such, we can increase important learning time by making some small adjustments to the start and end of the school day. The table below shows the new start and finish times which will come into effect from Monday 19 April 2021.

Year Group	Start Time	End Time
Year 7	8.25	14.50
Year 8	8.30	14.55
Year 9	8.35	15.00
Year 10	8.30	14.55
Year 11	8.25	15.00

Please make sure your child(ren) arrive to school on time and enter through their designated gate(s).

Uniform

Another change that we have made this year, is allowing students on days that they have PE, to come into school in their year coloured PE t-shirt and PE kit. This has mainly been a successful venture. However, we would like to remind you to have a conversation with your child about their uniform and presentation. They should always have their year coloured lanyard and ID card with them, when they leave for school. Full school uniform or the correct PE kit should be worn. There should only be black shoes or trainers as part of uniform. Blazers and ties should be worn at all times and skirts or school trousers – not leggings. Black or white socks or black tights are the only colours allowed. With the improvement in the weather, the expectation is that outdoor coats and hoodies should be removed in school.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support during what has been the strangest of times and to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

Yours sincerely



Miss D Johnson
Co-Headteacher



Mr N A Johnson
Co-Headteacher