



Bristol Free School
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Headteacher: Mrs S. King

16 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Important information for the start of Term 3

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the Christmas holidays despite the recent challenging news regarding the pandemic.

I am pleased to report that we have had a very low number of positive Covid cases in Term 2. We have been able to run most of the school calendar as planned and we have provided students with a wider range of enriching experiences compared to Term 1.

This letter is to share some important notices about the start of Term 3 and to inform you of what the government has asked schools to put in place before face to face teaching begins.

Lateral Flow Testing in Term 3

All schools have been asked to reopen their test centres and carry out one LFT on site before students return to face to face lessons. After that test in school, students are asked to continue to test twice a week at home and to log their result on Test Register. The reason for this is to mitigate for the potential greater risk that holiday mixing will present to our community.

Once again this presents major logistical challenges. We will use remote teaching to ensure all students start their education from Wednesday 5 January. We will stagger the face to face teaching from Wednesday 5 - Friday 7 January to enable testing to happen. Live teaching using Microsoft Teams will be used to deliver lessons as per your child's timetable including tutor time at 8.30am. On the day your child is asked to come in for their test we will set CORE tasks on Class Charts instead of online lessons. This is to allow for travel time and different appointment slots. The schedule for the first week is below

Date	Students attending for an on-site LFT then return home <i>Tasks set on Class Charts</i>	Students learning on Teams – live lessons	Students on site for normal lessons
Wed 5 Jan	Year 7 Year 8	Y9, 10, 11, 12, 13	None
Thurs 6 Jan	Year 9 Year 10	Y11, 12, 13	Year 7 Year 8
Fri 7 Jan	Year 11 Year 12 Year 13	none	Year 7, 8, 9 and 10

ALL YEAR GROUPS WILL RETURN TO NORMAL SCHOOL ON MONDAY 10 JANUARY

We have prioritised younger year groups to return to school first because we know a greater number of older students have more experience with live lessons and can work better independently from home. If your child experiences any difficulties accessing lessons please contact admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk or call 0117 959 7200



BFS Asymptomatic Test Site

Students should arrive at Concorde Drive student gate at the times stated below and will be on site for no more than 30 minutes. Face coverings need to be worn, unless exempt. School uniform is not required.

Students should not attend if they are displaying any symptoms, but instead should arrange a PCR test and isolate until they receive a negative result.

Consent

If your child took part in on-site testing in September 2021 then we already have your consent and will use the details provided at the time. If there have been any changes or you now wish to give consent please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/r/eQqTuNYxrN>

If you have not given consent for testing then your child is not expected to come to school on the test day and will continue with core subject tasks at home.

Should you have any questions relating to testing please email covid.testing@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Wednesday 5 January 2022		
TG	Arrival	Test time
7TG1	8.50	9.00
7TG2	9.10	9.20
7TG3	9.30	9.40
7TG4	9.50	10.00
7TG5	10.10	10.20
7TG6	11.00	11.10
7TG7	11.20	11.30
8TG1	11.40	11.50
8TG2	12.00	12.10
8TG3	1.00	1.10
8TG4	1.20	1.30
8TG5	1.40	1.50
8TG6	2.00	2.10
8TG7	2.20	2.30

Thursday 6 January 2022		
TG	Arrival	Test time
9TG1	8.50	9.00
9TG2	9.10	9.20
9TG3	9.30	9.40
9TG4	9.50	10.00
9TG5	10.10	10.20
9TG6	11.00	11.10
9TG7	11.20	11.30
10TG1	11.40	11.50
10TG2	12.00	12.10
10TG3	1.00	1.10
10TG4	1.20	1.30
10TG5	1.40	1.50
10TG6	2.00	2.10
10TG7	2.20	2.30

Friday 7 January 2022		
TG	Arrival	Test time
11TG1	8.50	9.00
11TG2	9.10	9.20
11TG3	9.30	9.40
11TG4	9.50	10.00
11TG5	10.10	10.20
11TG6	11.00	11.10
11TG7	11.20	11.30
12TG1	11.40	11.50
12TG2	11.40	11.50
12TG3	12.00	12.10
12TG4	12.00	12.10
13TG1	1.00	1.10
13TG2	1.00	1.10
13TG3	1.20	1.30
13TG4	1.20	1.30

Please note the below National Guidance

With immediate effect, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 to 18 years and 6 months identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

Vaccinating young people is increasingly important for keeping them, their friends, family members and teachers safe as we approach the Christmas holidays.

Over the Christmas holidays, parents can book first vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#). Second doses will be available for eligible children by Monday 20 December.

Further information on [vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds](#) is available on the NHS website.

Uniform expectations

We expect students to wear their BFS uniform with pride. This means ensuring they wear a school tie correctly, wearing a blazer and charcoal grey trousers or skirt. At the start of Term 3, Year Leaders and Senior Staff will check the quality of uniform to ensure it meets our expectations. If there are any uniform breaches, we will contact home and ask it to be rectified within 24 hours. Obviously if you have any genuine difficulties in sourcing uniform please contact your child's Year Leader. We do hold healthy second hand uniform stocks which you are welcome to enquire about next term.

As we wrestle with the ongoing challenges thrown at us by the pandemic, it continues to be a pleasure to see students engaging in so many aspects of school life beyond the classroom. These experiences are a huge part of our values and we ask you to encourage your child to take up the increasing number of extra-curricular opportunities that we intend to offer next year.

On that optimistic note, I would like to wish you a very happy Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes



Mrs S King
Headteacher