

1st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child back to school next week. As has been the case throughout the pandemic, our utmost priority is the safety of all students and staff, and I am pleased to be able to share further details about our re-opening with you now.

Safety measures

To help ensure as safe a learning environment as possible, we will continue to follow the same, stringent measures as last term: year and class bubbles and zones; staggered start, finish, lunch and break times; extra hygiene practices; and additional cleaning. In line with latest advice, students will now be asked/required to wear a face covering in the classroom, as well as when moving around the school site. Please ensure your child has a face covering with them at all times – while we have a small number available in school, these are of limited supply.

Testing

Before we re-open, all students must be tested for coronavirus. We have already been successfully testing staff and students learning in school, and have now made arrangements to scale up our process to test the whole community. Please be assured, we are following best practice and every member of staff involved has completed rigorous training.

To help ensure a smooth return to school we will be testing students in phases, by year and class groups as outlined below. It is very important your child attends their test at the allotted slot and your support in helping us keep to the timetable is much appreciated.

Date of COVID tests	Entrance/Exit	Test Centre	Year/ tutor	Time to attend
Test 1- Tuesday 2 nd March, Test 2- Friday 5 th March, Test 3 -Monday 8 th March	Walkway	Quad	7A & 7B	8.30
			7C & 7D	9.30
			7E & 7F	10.30
			7G & 7H	11.30
			8A & 8B	1.00
			8C & 8D	2.00
			8E & 8F	3.00
			8G & 8H	4.00
Date of COVID tests	Entrance/Exit	Test Centre	Year/ tutor	Time to attend
Test 1- Tuesday 2 nd March, Test 2- Friday 5 th March, Test 3 -Monday 8 th March	Side entrance	Main hall	9A & 9B	8.30
			9C & 9D	9.30
			9E & 9F	10.30
			9G & 10A	11.30
			10B & 10C	1.00
			10D & 10E & 11F	2.00
			10F & 11A & 11B	3.00
			11C & 11D & 11E	4.00

In line with government guidelines, we will give each student three tests in school – after this time, we will provide kits for home testing (for both students and members of their household)

Any student who tests positive will need to isolate for 10 days, as now, and we will carry out thorough track and trace to identify – and isolate – any close contacts.

All students need consent to be tested – if you have yet to give your consent, I urge you to do so as soon as possible by completing the COVID Testing Consent and Registration forms, following the link <https://forms.gle/rnh6R32ygP9RXDt97>

May I thank you in advance for your co-operation with the testing procedure, which will help us to limit the spread of the virus and keep the community safe.

School will re-open for face-to-face teaching for all students on Tuesday 9 March.

Term starts on Tuesday 9th March 2021 for all students. We will stagger the return of students on the 9th March, so that all students are able to adjust to the new routines in place.

Timings	Lessons	Entrance/ exit
10.00am	Year 7	Walkway
10.00am	Year 8	Side Entrance
10.30am	Year 9	Walkway
10.30am	Year 10	Side entrance by Naseby Centre
11.00am	Year 11	Side entrance by Naseby Centre

Remote learning

Until we re-open, your child should continue to follow their remote learning timetable. I am incredibly proud of how hard students have worked during lockdown – let's keep it up!

We look forward to seeing your child back at school. Information for week commencing 8th March will follow.

Return

Once we return, our focus will be on supporting the students adjust to life back in school, helping to fill any gaps in their learning while also prioritising team building and social time.

I cannot wait to see Rockwood Academy full again, and to supporting your child to enjoy a more normal school experience.

Kind regards



Sofia Darr
Headteacher