



Eden Boys

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Assalaamu Alaikum (May Peace be with you)

I am writing to provide an update on your child's learning over the next few weeks.

### **School Reopening**

On Monday evening, the Prime Minister announced that schools will start to reopen from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March onwards.

Students will follow their usual timetable from home (online via MS Teams) until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. The children of key workers and vulnerable learners will continue to attend school.

**On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, all students will return to school.**

I will write to you again next week to outline the specific arrangements for your child's return to school, including a reminder of the expectations of all students (due to COVID-19).

In the meantime, during their online lessons, please continue to encourage your child to participate fully. In particular, please ensure that they:

- Go to bed on time during school nights and have a good routine for learning, play, reflection and rest.
- Wake up on time, have breakfast, get dressed and are ready to learn by 8.00am each morning.
- Have a break and lunch at the allocated time on their timetable, stepping away from their device.
- Stay focused during their lessons and completes all of the activities given by the teacher.
- Complete all of the homework tasks given to them.

### **COVID-19 Testing in School**

In order to ensure that the school is as safe as possible, and in line with government expectations, we will be running a **Covid-19 Lateral Flow Test programme for all consenting students. The testing programme will start from Thursday 4th March.** If you are happy for your child to be tested, please complete the electronic consent form <https://bit.ly/3bB8HvD> by **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March.**

The test will be supervised by trained school staff and there will be minimal disruption to lessons. The test is quick and easy using a swab of the nose and throat. Results are available within 30 minutes and will be shared directly with participating pupils and their parents.



**We will be testing all participating pupils three times.** After this initial testing, pupils will be provided with two rapid tests to use each week at home.

The programme for testing will begin as follows:

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March:**

- **Students in Year 10 should come to the sports hall between 8.00am and 9.30am for their first test**
- **Students in Year 9 should come to the sports hall between 10.00am and 11.30am for their first test**
- **Students in Year 8 should come to the sports hall between 12.00pm and 1.30pm for their first test**
- **Students in Year 7 should come to the sports hall between 2.00pm and 3.30pm for their first test**

Your child will come in from the Prestbury road entrance and testing will take place in the Sports Hall. **Parents will need to wait outside the school** and please allow around 15 minutes for the testing to take place. If you have more than one child in school, they can come together for testing. Once your child has done his test, he can then go home and you will get an email and text notification of the results.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help pupils to remain in school safely. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

**GCSE and BTEC exams**

As you are aware, the Government has announced that GCSE exams would no longer go ahead this summer. Instead, teachers will be asked to issue grades based on tests completed in school and the exam boards will check that these grades have been issued correctly.

When your child returns to school, they will be asked to complete tests for each subject. Based on the final Ofqual guidance, these tests may be used by your child's teachers to decide their grade.

The first set of tests are scheduled during week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 29<sup>th</sup> March. The timetable for these assessments will be shared with your child.

Please note that the assessments completed in March will not be the final assessments – there will be more assessments after Easter so that your child can continue to demonstrate their grade. Your child's teachers will deliver revision lessons before each assessment and share necessary information so that they can prepare adequately. The aim is to give pupils the best possible chance to demonstrate their learning and maximise their grade.

It is understandable that pupils in exam classes will feel anxious and uncertain about their grades. However, please reassure your child that **participating fully in lessons, completing all homework and trying their best in every assessment** will help to improve their grade

and achieve the best possible result in the summer. We are committed to working as hard as possible to ensure that none of our pupils are disadvantaged by the cancellation of exams.

### **Laptops Return**

If your child has borrowed a laptop, please return the device to the school reception office on their first day back at school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.

If you have any queries or concerns, or need support in any way, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school and our efforts on behalf of your child.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akhmed Hussain', with a small dot at the end.

**Akhmed Hussain**  
**Associate Principal**