



Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope my letter finds you and your family well.

I am writing to let you know the date and time your daughter will be expected to return to school for the remainder of this term. Please see the Tables below, following my letter, and note that on LFD Test 1 days for each year group, there are specific return times for testing for each Tutor Group. For those of you who would like to read them, I am also including extracts from a DfE document published and circulated to schools on 1st March, which has new information regarding face coverings in education. The extracts are in blue text following the tables at the end of my letter.

## **School response to guidance on face coverings**

While the document to schools, newly published on 1st March 2021, contains recommended guidance rather than mandatory activity, following our Risk Assessment review, the school is of the opinion that given the sizes of our classrooms, wearing of masks in classrooms, as well as in communal areas (current expected practice) should be adopted by all; it was already becoming voluntary common practice among students ahead of the end of the autumn term, to wear a mask in class. As was the case in September 2020, to support the full return to school now, we are unable to maintain social distancing of students within classroom settings. Students are in class bubbles and sit more closely together than in normal circumstances, to provide social distancing from teachers in the room. With the prevalence of more contagious strands of coronavirus, there is an increasing need for all students and staff to have confidence in being together in a classroom setting.

We will continue to operate with windows and doors open to increase ventilation, which helps protect from aerosol spread of the virus. However it is clear that the wearing of face coverings would provide an added level of protection, even with any limitations that might be placed on their absolute effectiveness.

The Government will review their guidance at the end of this term, which will be under four weeks from when your daughter returns to school. The DfE hopes that at that time wearing masks will again become a recommendation confined to communal areas, for the start of the summer term. I will inform you of their review outcome, following Public Health England advice, as soon as I receive it.

To support secondary school students this term, the DfE is delivering a stock of Type ii disposable masks to all secondary schools, which will be available if a student forgets their own, loses it or if they need to change it during the day and have not brought a spare with them. I would however gently remind you that our School Uniform rules were changed in September 2020 to include bringing a mask to school.



## **Arrangements for LFD Testing and impact on remote education until full return to school**

Students will come to school on designated days per year group for LFD Test 1, starting on Tuesday 9th March. Students not opting for testing will remain at home on the test day, consolidating and finishing work set so far. Following Test 1, students will return home and join their year group in work consolidation. Any student testing positive will need to be accompanied on their journey home without using Public Transport. The school will contact you to inform you of a positive outcome and agree to a time of collection of your daughter within 45 minutes. The day after a year group has had Test 1, those students who have a negative result will return to school. Tests 2 and 3 will follow at appropriate, recommended gaps for those students who have opted in. Students not opting into testing will remain at school following their usual timetable throughout the process for Tests 2 and 3.

While year groups are at home waiting their turn for Test 1, students should expect their remote education to be a blend of live lessons and set tasks. All staff will return to school on Monday 8th March when they will take Test 1. Teachers will be supporting their Tutor Group throughout their testing process which means they will not always be available for live, or face to face lessons for students in school, until Test 3 has been completed [*please see the tables below for information relating to each year group*].

### **Finally**

After Test 3 in school, students and their families will receive home testing kits to use twice a week. Positive outcomes expect a student to remain home and isolate accordingly. Currently we have approximately 85% uptake for testing which will help us in our aim to keep the school open for as many year groups as possible over the coming weeks.

This is a massive undertaking for the school and our community of families. On behalf of everyone, thank you for your support. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming your daughter back on site, very soon now.

Yours faithfully

Violet Walker  
Headteacher



## Phased Return Schedule:

Week A	Monday 8th March	Tuesday 9th March	Wednesday 10th March	Thursday 11th March	Friday 12th March
<b>Sixth Form</b>	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school Arrive Gordon Way 8.40am	Lessons in school	Lessons in school LFD test 2 in school	Lessons in school
<b>Year 11</b>	Consolidation and catch up day	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school Arrive Meadway 8.40am	Lessons in school	LFD test 2 in school Lessons in school
<b>Year 10</b>	Consolidation and catch up day	Remote lessons	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school. Arrive Gordon Way 8.30am	Lessons in school
<b>Year 7</b>	Consolidation and catch up day	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school Arrive Meadway 8.30am
<b>Year 8</b>	Consolidation and catch up day	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	Remote lessons
<b>Year 9</b>	Consolidation and catch up day	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	Remote lessons

NB:

- ❑ Boxes highlighted in purple indicate the first day the entire year group is expected in school.
- ❑ Remote lessons may be a mixture of live lessons and set work depending upon staffing since some teaching staff will have an involvement in the on-site programme.
- ❑ On the day where the first LFD test takes place, students will be allocated an appointment time and will attend school solely for the purpose of testing. All students must arrive on time for their appointment. Having completed their test, students will leave the site and return home to complete consolidation and catch up. Testing will be taking place in our sports hall and further information will be sent along with the appointment letter.



Founded in 1888

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

<b>Week B</b>	<b>Monday 15th March</b>	<b>Tuesday 16th March</b>	<b>Wednesday 17th March</b>	<b>Thursday 18th March</b>	<b>Friday 19th March</b>
<b>Sixth Form</b>	Lessons in school	LFD test 3 in school Lessons in school	Lessons in school	Lessons in school	Lessons in school
<b>Year 11</b>	Lessons in school	Lessons in school	LFD test 3 in school Lessons in school	Lessons in school	Lessons in school
<b>Year 10</b>	LFD test 2 in school Lessons in school	Lessons in school	Lessons in school	LFD test 3 in school Lessons in school	Lessons in school
<b>Year 7</b>	Lessons in school	LFD test 2 in school Lessons in school	Lessons in school	Lessons in school	LFD test 3 in school Lessons in school
<b>Year 8</b>	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school Arrive Meadway 8.50am	Lessons in school	Lessons in school	LFD test 2 in school Lessons in school
<b>Year 9</b>	Remote lessons	Remote lessons	LFD test 1 in school Consolidation and catch up day	Lessons in school Arrive Gordon Way 8.50am	Lessons in school

NB:

- ❑ After completing three LFD tests in school, students can then access home test kits and testing will take place solely at home (twice per week).
- ❑ Key worker and vulnerable child provision will continue throughout the above period for those families who have previously been making use of this provision.
- ❑ Lessons in school will continue to take place in the timetabled classrooms and within the previously established bubbles and year group zones.
- ❑ School catering facilities will be available to students who are on site for an entire school day.



Founded in 1888

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

## Tutor Group timings for LFD Test 1

Students need to be registered at the time given, so they should arrive a maximum of 10 minutes before their allocated time at the Meadway entrance . Students should be socially distanced at all times. After testing students will be sent home, between 60-90 minutes after their start time.

*Any student who tests positive will need to be collected immediately by arrangement.*

<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Thursday 11th March</b>
7AEA	9.00am
7DRS	9.45am
7JFD	10.30am
7CRY	11.30am
7CMY	12.15pm
7GWN	2.00pm
7VBE	2.30pm
<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Monday 15th March</b>
8SBT	9.00am
8ECY	9.45am
8DSK	10.30am
8YKS	11.30am
8HHS	12.15pm
8RPE	2.00pm
8AAM	2.30pm
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Wednesday 17th March</b>
9HWN	9.00am
9HNA	9.45am
9NMN	10.30am
9CKY	11.30am
9PKI	12.15pm
9PBE	2.00pm
9MNA	2.30pm
<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Wednesday 10th March</b>
10GCR	9.00am
10CBS	9.45am
10ABL	10.30am
10JPR	11.30am
10MEN	12.15pm
10DBG	2.00pm
10SKT	2.30pm



Founded in 1888

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Tuesday 9th March</b>
11CKR	9.00am
11SAU	9.30am
11DWS	10.00am
11DWN	10.30am
11ASZ	11.30am
11BSA	12.00pm
11HME	12.30pm
11HRS	1.30pm
<b>6th Form</b>	<b>Monday 8th March</b>
6NBS	11.30am
6NRN	11.30am
6EWT	12.00pm
6MCN	12.00pm
6MSR	12.30pm
6RHN	12.30pm
6DBH	1.00pm
6MFR	2.15pm
6CHN	2.15pm



Founded in 1888

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

**Table of staggered starts/ends/social times and timetable for each year group applies to both remote learning and students attending school. Please note that these may be different from last term.**

Week A	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12&13	
8:30am	-	-Arrive/reg (Meadway)	-	Arrive/reg (Gordon Way)	-	-	
8:40am	-	Form time	-	Form time	Arrive/reg (Meadwa)	Arrive/reg (Gordon Way bottom)	
8:50am	Arrive/reg (Meadway)		Arrive/reg (Gordon Way)		Form time	Form time	Form time
9:00am	Form time		Form time				
9:15am-10:10 am	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	
10:10am	Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets	Period 2	Break - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	
10:30am	Period 2		Period 2				Period 2
10:50am		Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets		Break - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical			
11:10am	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets	Break - 6th form	
11:30am-12:2 5pm		Period 3		Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
12:25pm	Lunch - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets	Period 4	Lunch - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	
1:00pm	Period 4		Period 4				Period 4
1:35pm		Lunch - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets		Lunch - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical			
2:05pm	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	
2:55pm	Depart (Meadway)		Depart (Gordon Way)				
3:05pm	-	Depart (Meadway)	-	Depart (Gordon Way)			
3:15pm	-	-	-	-	Depart (Meadway)	Depart (Gordon Way bottom)	



Founded in 1888

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

Week B	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12&13
8:30am	-	Arrive/reg (Meadway)	-	Arrive/reg (Gordon Way)	-	-
8:40am	-	Form time	-	Form time	Arrive/reg (Meadway)	Arrive/reg (Gordon Way bottom)
8:50am	Arrive/reg (Meadway)		Arrive/reg (Gordon Way)		Form time	Form time
9:00am	Form time		Form time			
9:15am-10:10am	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
10:10am	Break - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical	Period 2	Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10:30am	Period 2		Break - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical			
10:50am		Period 2		Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets		
11:10am		Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Break - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets
11:30am-12:25pm	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
12:25pm	Lunch - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical	Period 4	Lunch - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
1:00pm	Period 4	Lunch - pod Gym if wet Toilets by medical	Period 4	Lunch - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets		
1:35pm		Period 4		Period 4	Period 4	Lunch - canteen Sports hall if wet Sports hall toilets
2:05pm	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5
2:55pm	Depart (Meadway)		Depart (Gordon Way)			
3:05pm	-		Depart (Meadway)			
3:15pm	-	-	-	-	Depart (Meadway)	Depart (Gordon Way bottom)





## **“Department for Education**

### **Face coverings in education - March 2021**

#### **Introduction**

From 8 March 2021, new advice applies to the use of face coverings by staff, pupils and students in schools and further education in England. Further information can be found in the guidance for schools, guidance for specialist settings and guidance for further education. There is separate guidance for early years and childcare providers and guidance for higher education.

All schools and colleges will open fully this March. Returning to school and college is vital for pupils and students' education and wellbeing.

We know that the predominant new variant of coronavirus (COVID-19) is more transmissible; however, Public Health England (PHE) advice remains that the way to control this virus is with the system of controls, even with the current new variants. We are further strengthening these measures to provide more reassurance and to help decrease the disruption the virus causes to education.

Implementing the system of controls creates a safer environment for staff, pupils and students where the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection is substantially reduced. The use of face coverings in recommended circumstances is one element of the system of controls and must be implemented in line with other guidance.

This is a temporary measure and will be reviewed at Easter, in partnership with health experts, to decide whether evidence suggests that these measures can be eased ahead of the summer term.

This is guidance, not mandatory activity, and any legal exemptions that apply to the wearing of face coverings in shops and on public transport also apply to this advice.

#### **What a face covering is**

Face coverings are not classified as PPE (personal protective equipment), which is used in a limited number of settings to protect wearers against hazards and risks, such as surgical masks or respirators used in medical and industrial settings. Face coverings are instead largely intended to protect others, not the wearer, against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, which are the main confirmed sources of transmission of virus that causes coronavirus infection (COVID-19).....

#### **When to wear a face covering in education**



Where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff, pupils and students when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.....

In addition, we now also recommend that in those settings where pupils and students in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn in classrooms and during activities unless social distancing can be maintained.....

We are recommending these additional precautionary measures for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. These measures will be in place until Easter. As with all measures, we will keep this under review and update guidance at that point.

Transparent face coverings, which may assist communication with someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate, can also be worn. There is currently very limited evidence regarding the effectiveness or safety of transparent face coverings, but they may be effective in reducing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings. They may protect against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in preventing aerosol transmission when used without an additional face covering. They should only be used after carrying out a risk assessment for the specific situation and should always be cleaned appropriately.

Those who rely on visual signals for communication, or communicate with or provide support to such individuals, are currently exempt from any requirement to wear face coverings in education settings or in public places.

## **Safe wearing and removal of face coverings**

It is vital that face coverings are worn correctly and that clear instructions are provided to staff, pupils and students on how to put on, remove, store and dispose of face coverings in all of the circumstances above, to avoid inadvertently increasing the risks of transmission.

Safe wearing of face coverings requires the:

- cleaning of hands before and after touching – including to remove or put them on
- safe storage of them in individual, sealable plastic bags between use.

Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn, and the face covering should be replaced carefully. Staff, pupils and students may consider bringing a spare face covering to wear in the event that their face covering becomes damp during the day.”