



# HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am going to start this update with an image that made me smile. As part of their remote curriculum, Year 7 have been learning about the London Vegetable Orchestra, and this is just one of many carrot flutes that have been fashioned at home by our amazingly creative students.



Here are the headlines drawn from this update. Please do take time to read the detail that follows.

- **Hampstead School will reopen on a phased basis from Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>, initially in order to allow student testing to take place.**
- **Years, 10, 11, 12 and 13 will return to face-to-face teaching during that week (as per the schedule below). Years 7, 8 and 9 will return to face-to-face teaching on Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- **All students with consent will be tested three times across the course of the first two weeks. If you are yet to do so, please fill in the [consent form here](#).**
- **All students and staff must wear a face covering when on the school site unless they are exempt. If your child is exempt, please re-confirm the reason with their head of year.**
- **An updated risk assessment and reopening guide will be shared with parents next week.**

## Reopening from March 8<sup>th</sup>

On Monday the Prime Minister announced that all schools would reopen from March 8<sup>th</sup>. The guidance given to schools states: *All secondary school students will take coronavirus tests as they return to the classroom from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Schools will have discretion on how to phase the return of their students over the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March to allow them to be tested on return.*

We are excited about our students returning to school but recognise the need to manage this process carefully. Our plan is designed to:

- (i) Achieve full reopening by Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>
- (ii) Allow the testing process to take place
- (iii) Protect the mental health and wellbeing of staff and students



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Date	COVID Testing	Face-to face teaching
Monday 8 March	Year 13 and staff	No face-to-face teaching
Tuesday 9 March	Years 11 and 12	Year 13
Wednesday 10 March	Years 9 and 10	Years 11, 12 and 13
Thursday 11 March	Years 7 and 8	Years 10, 11, 12 and 13
Friday 12 March	Years 11, 12 and 13	Years 10, 11, 12 and 13
Monday 15 March	Years 9 and 10	All students in lessons*
Tuesday 16 March	Years 7 and 8	All students in lessons*
Wednesday 17 March	Years 11, 12 and 13	All students in lessons
Thursday 18 March	Years 9 and 10	All students in lessons
Friday 19 March	Years 7 and 8	All students in lessons

#### \*Staggered departure

In order to ensure testing demands can be met, bring food serving up to capacity and reinstitute expectations around a safe, socially-distanced departure from school, we will be staging a staggered departure on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Years 7 and 8 will leave school at 1330 on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> and Years 9 and 10 will leave school at 1330 on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>. Other year groups will finish at their normal time.

#### The in-school testing process

**Testing is only for asymptomatic students. If your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, do not send them into school and book an NHS test.**

Your child will take their first test between Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Their tutor group will be given a designated time (see below) and they should attend school on time and in full school uniform (including a face covering). On arrival they will be directed to the test centre where they will take the test under the supervision of trained personnel and with support from their tutor and head of year. Having taken the test they will go home immediately. You will be contacted via mobile phone with the test result on the same day. In the event that a test comes back positive, we will be in touch to talk through necessary actions.

We have included a separate letter with information on testing and encourage everyone to give consent to the testing process. If you are yet to do so, please complete the form that is [available here](#).

If you decide to withhold consent for testing your child will not need to attend school until their year group returns to school for face-to-face teaching (on the date indicated in the table above).

If in school for face-to-face teaching on a scheduled testing day, students will leave their lessons for a brief time to take a test.

#### Testing after March 19<sup>th</sup>

From March 19<sup>th</sup>, testing will stop in schools and students will be provided with test kits to use at home on a twice-weekly basis. We will provide more information about this in the week beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Will the remote curriculum continue if my child is not in school?

Work will continue to be set on Microsoft Teams for all year groups not experiencing face-to-face teaching and it is important that students continue to complete this work. However, from Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup> onwards there will not be any live support or live delivery during lessons; this is to create time for staff to be inducted into new control measures, plan for the Year 11 and Year 13 summer assessment process and carry out staff testing.

### Face coverings

The government have changed the guidance on face coverings, with the new guidelines stating that: *Staff and students in secondary schools and colleges are advised to wear face coverings in all areas, including classrooms, where social distancing cannot be maintained.*

As social distancing is very difficult to maintain within a school setting, **all staff and students will be required to wear a face covering at all times.** There will be a small number of exceptions – e.g. whilst eating, whilst participating in strenuous sport – but the default position will be that if you are on site, you should be wearing a face covering. This includes during free association time in outdoor areas.

If your child is exempt (the potential reasons are listed [here](#)) please contact their head of year to confirm the reason for their exemption. **This applies even if you have previously had contact with the school about this;** we need to ensure our records are completely up to date. Exempt students will be given an exemption card that they will be able to display if required. Unless exempt, **students must bring two face coverings to school with them every day.**

### Updated risk assessment and control measures

As part of the reopening process we will be updating our risk assessment and re-evaluating the system of controls that we have in place. We will publish this next week, along with an updated version of the reopening guide first issued in August 2020.

### Year 9 Choices 2021

The Year 9 Choices process is now in full flow, with drop-in sessions taking place across all subject areas this week. Students and parents have access to the Choices booklet and the fantastic new Choices website. A reminder that students must complete their Choices form by Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Summer assessment process

The results of consultations on Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications have not been released at the time of writing; we are hopeful that we will have some news before the end of this week. We want to congratulate our examination-year students for their continued engagement in remote provision; this is the best possible response to the current situation and will be reflected in final grades.

### Reporting to parents

As promised in the update before half term, we will be sending home reports to all students next week. These reports will give an indication of academic performance during the first term, and subject-specific online engagement for the current term. In my previous update I also referenced a live tutor-parent conversation event; we have delayed this in light of the reopening plans, but if you would like to talk through your child's report please do contact their tutor or head of year.

Thank you as always for your continued support. Please do get in touch if you have any questions. We look forward to welcoming your child back to school very soon.

All best wishes,



Matthew Sadler  
Head

The following tables detail the designated testing times for different tutor groups in the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March. Students should arrive at school in full school uniform, including a face covering, in time for their designated testing slot.

Monday March 8 <sup>th</sup>	
13.1	1130
13.2	1150
13.3	1210
13.4	1230
13.5	1250
13.6	1310

Tuesday March 9 <sup>th</sup>	
12.1	1130
12.2	1150
12.3	1210
12.4	1230
12.5	1250
12.6	1310
12.7	1330

Tuesday March 9 <sup>th</sup>	
11.1	0830
11.2	0850
11.3	0910
11.4	0930
11.5	0950
11.6	1010
11.7	1030

Wednesday March 10 <sup>th</sup>	
10.1	1130
10.2	1150
10.3	1210
10.4	1230
10.5	1250
10.6	1310
10.7	1330

Wednesday March 10 <sup>th</sup>	
9.1	0830
9.2	0850
9.3	0910
9.4	0930
9.5	0950
9.6	1010
9.7	1030

Thursday March 11 <sup>th</sup>	
8.1	1130
8.2	1150
8.3	1210
8.4	1230
8.5	1250
8.6	1310
8.7	1330

Thursday March 11 <sup>th</sup>	
7.1	0830
7.2	0850
7.3	0910
7.4	0930
7.5	0950
7.6	1010
7.7	1030

This table displays the date on which face-to-face teaching starts for each year group. Students should arrive at school at their normal staggered arrival time in full school uniform.

Face-to-face teaching		
Year 7	15.03.21	0825
Year 8	15.03.21	0830
Year 9	15.03.21	0835
Year 10	11.03.21	0830
Year 11	10.03.21	0835
Year 12	10.03.21	First lesson or AM reg.
Year 13	09.03.21	