

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Email:cpyle@lrgs.org.uk Dear Parents,

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Dear Parents.

Full school re-opening from 8th March

The government has announced that all schools in England will return to full face-to-face teaching from 8th March. I know that for many families this will be a cause of great relief! For others, the news may be mixed with some anxiety.

Our aims are to ensure that the school is as safe as possible, to give excellent pastoral support, and to help pupils to thrive in their learning.

Many of the controls in place will be similar to last term. Year groups will be in separate zones, with rules such as handwashing and classroom ventilation that will be very familiar to pupils.

There will be two significant differences. The first is about COVID testing. We have been asked to test every pupil three times on-site in the first two or three weeks. (The Assembly Hall is now a COVID test site with a trained testing team.) After that, pupils will be supplied with test kits to test themselves twice a week at home, with results reported to NHS Test and Trace.

The second change is that masks will now be mandatory in all classrooms (with some exceptions such as PE activities), except for individuals who are exempt from wearing masks.

We have some decisions to make over the next few days about arrangements for testing a large number of pupils and about the return. We may need to stagger the return by a day or two for some year groups to allow testing as well as proper pastoral check-in for returning pupils.

We are looking forward to welcoming boarders back to the school, and will be in touch separately about details for their return. We know that some overseas boarders will have issues of travel and quarantine to deal with, and we will continue to support them fully.

We are also expecting guidance to follow shortly with further details about GCSE and A-level assessment this summer. We will keep you fully informed as soon as we know more.

We will be in touch over the next few days with full details and firm plans for the return. We are very much looking forward to welcoming your sons and daughters back to the school site.

Yours faithfully,

Dr C J Pyle
Headmaster