



Archway

10 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am truly pleased to report how impressed we have been with the students' attitudes in this staggered return to school. Thank you to all of you for ensuring that your child has arrived at the right place at the right time. From tomorrow, we are moving back to our 'normal' arrival times of 08:30 for Year 7 to 9 and 08:45 for Years 10 to 13. Students will be expected to wait in the same places as those used before Christmas. It is important that the younger students arrive promptly at 08:30 to avoid the crossing of students from different year groups.

We have been picking up on a few uniform issues, but in the vast majority of cases, the students have arrived looking very smart; some were even wearing new shoes so thank you for your efforts obtaining these during this lockdown period.

It is also important for us all to stress to the students that when they are walking home they should avoid gathering in large groups.

#### **Additional Support**

Thank you for completing the survey sent out last week. The general picture is that students are looking forward to having a routine. Some were nervous about the return to school; our tutors and pastoral leaders have been working with the students to support their return to school and we have allocated time and resources to ease their transition back to the classroom. Should you feel that your child needs additional help, please do contact the relevant Head of Key Stage. Extra student counselling sessions have been allocated should they be required. Also, next week, representatives from The Door (an organisation that helps secondary school students) will be coming into school. The Door have a team of experts trained to work with young people and there is an open invitation to any students who would like to meet them after school in a relaxed environment at the following times:

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

For more information please contact Mr Young [julianyoung@archwayschool.net](mailto:julianyoung@archwayschool.net)

#### **Home Testing**

The home testing kits for students have now arrived in school and we shall be issuing the kits to each student once they have taken their 3<sup>rd</sup> test in school. Home testing starts on the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Please see the attached document for further information.

#### **Welcome to Our New Students**

A number of new students have joined us this week across several year groups. I would like to extend the hand of welcome to these new members of the community (although handshakes are not yet allowed!). I am sure that our students will help them settle into Archway School quickly.

Yours faithfully

Kieron Smith  
Headteacher

### Lateral Flow Tests in School

We have nearly completed the first round of testing in school and the students have been amazing. They have followed instructions, completed their first test and waited patiently for the results. The second and third test will take place during the school day on the following days:

Year 7	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 8	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 9	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 10	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 11	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 12 & 13	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March

### Home Testing - students

On completion of their third test at school students will be provided with home test kits to continue to complete a test, twice a week at home. They will need to complete testing at home from the week beginning the 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Students (supported by parents) will need to complete the following steps:

1. Read key information and privacy notice (attached) to understand data protection for testing.
2. Students will be given the test kits at school; they will then take them home after signing for them and the updated instructions for use.
3. Test at home – Students will need to follow instructions: v1.3.2 issued with test kit and watch the video below:

[How to do a COVID-19 Self Test \(rapid antigen test\) - YouTube](#)

It is recommended that tests are completed in the morning before attending their education setting (so there is less chance of get infected between taking the test and attending the setting). However, they/you may choose to do the testing the evening before, especially the first time, to give the students more time to get accustomed to the test, and to have more time for school to react to a positive test result.

4. At 30 minutes, check the result. Please note the results are invalid after 30 minutes.

Positive result: Self-isolate immediately, following the current public health guidance. You should then book [a confirmatory PCR test](#) for your son/daughter. We would advise visiting a community or drive through test site as this is the quickest way to get tested, or you can order a home test kit. It is important that the family self-isolate until the result of the PCR test.

Negative result: No need to self-isolate, student can go to school.

Void result: Take another LFD test. If 2 void results are received in a row you should book a PCR test.

**5. Report result to NHS Test and Trace – [here](#). Even if negative or void. This is a requirement of taking the test.**

**6. Report result to the school. If it is positive, please immediately contact [admin@archwayschool.net](mailto:admin@archwayschool.net)**

**If it is negative or void please use the form on the school's website in the [COVID section](#) (click here)**

7. Take the next test according to guidance - twice weekly, 3 to 4 days apart. No test required for 90 days after positive PCR, unless new symptoms are developed.

Please note:

For home testing: Secondary pupils aged 11 should have the test administered by an adult, and students aged 12-17 should be supervised by an adult but can swab themselves.

These tests should not be used by anybody but the student they have been registered to.

**What you will receive?**

- Tests will come in packs of 3 or 7
- The picture shows an outer case and an example of an LFD 7's test kit
- In addition to a box of test kits there is a booklet that contains updated
- 'Instructions for Use'.

Please contact [admin@archwayschool.net](mailto:admin@archwayschool.net) for any concerns or issues.

