



COVID-19 UPDATE

01 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Start of Term January 2021

On 30th December 2020, the Secretary of State for Education announced plans to protect education and fight the virus. With case rates rising across the country, the government will now begin applying the contingency framework for education and push back the staggered return for secondary schools by one week.

As a result of this announcement, the start of the Spring Term has changed.

Please be aware of the following:

- **Monday 4 January will be an INSET Day for staff only.**
- **All year groups will be taught remotely from Tuesday 5 January. You will receive further information including the Google Classroom codes required to access learning each day.**
- **Year 11 students are to return to face-to-face teaching on Monday 11 January 2021. Students will need to bring a packed lunch for this week. Further details on GCSE Mock Examinations will follow shortly.**
- **Year 7-10 students are to return to face-to-face teaching on Monday 18 January 2021.**

Critical Workers and Vulnerable Students

We will provide face-to-face education for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers starting Tuesday 5th January, if suitable childcare arrangements cannot be made. If parents are critical workers or your child is vulnerable and you require your child to attend School from Tuesday 5 January, please indicate this using the link below. We would be grateful if you could complete the survey by 3 January 2021.

The link is [Critical Worker & Vulnerable Students \(Parent Survey\)](#)

An updated definition of Critical Workers and vulnerable student groups can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Testing for COVID-19 in Schools January 2021

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing, we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. We will test year 11 students before the rest of the School returns. Year 7-10 students are likely to be tested on week commencing 18 January. Students will then be tested on a weekly basis.

In addition to the weekly testing, a new approach known as 'serial testing' has been developed. This will allow those (students and staff) who are in 'close contact with' someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to return to school if they agree to be tested daily for 7 days.

Parents must give permission for the tests to take place, the letter requesting permission is attached. Please ensure you print and complete this form then ask your child to bring this to school on the first day they return. Further details about the testing instructions and procedures can be found here:

[Testing instructions and procedures](#)

Volunteers

We are asking for support from members of the community to help administer these tests. No experience is required, as full training will be provided. If you are able to support the school during the school day, please email us at kjames@stanboroughpark.herts.sch.uk.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at school, either via telephone (from 4 January 2021) or email.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr K. James
Interim Headteacher

Stanborough Secondary School Test and Trace consent form for COVID-19 testing

- For pupils and students younger than 16 years - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to enrol in the testing programme.
- Pupils and students 16 and over can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- Staff will complete this form themselves.

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the school about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the letter dated [01.01.2021].
2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
3. I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for a lateral flow test.
4. I consent that my / my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
5. I understand that if my child / my result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the school except where they/you are a close contact of a confirmed positive.
6. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to my child having / having a nose and throat swab for confirmatory PCR testing, which shall be sent the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.
7. I consent that I / they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
8. I agree that if my / my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school and I understand that I / my child will be required to self-isolate following Public Health advice.
9. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive but I / my child has tested negative, I / they will continue to attend school but will be tested every day at school for 7 days.

Name of pupil/student/staff to be tested (print)	
Year group (if applicable)	
Name of parent or guardian if under 16 (print)	
Signature	
Date	
Relationship to child if under 16	