



**Headteacher: Tim Marston**

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25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Full-time return of all students to school for the week beginning 8th March 2021**

First of all, we hope you and your family are well and safe.

Returning to school is vital for children's education and well-being and we are delighted to be welcoming students back. In line with government guidance, The Roundhill Academy will begin to re-open to all students in all year groups on a daily basis from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### **Testing**

To increase the safety of students and staff and to reduce the risk of transmission within school, the government requires schools to offer Lateral Flow Tests to all students before they return to lessons. School staff will lead the testing, supported by volunteers who have been through a rigorous application process and safety checks. All staff and volunteers have completed required training and gained the appropriate certification. To date we have completed over 200 tests on both students and staff. This has been received very positively and has resulted in a greater sense of security and safety within school.

Although testing is voluntary, in a bid to maintain a safe environment, we would like to test as many students as possible. If you haven't already done so, please may I urge you to complete the online consent form by 1:00pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 using the link below. We need the information by this date to organise appointment times and register tests.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=33\\_wzdLTyk2HVK3vxmXhiM22zxnKwexBp7KK3J51s5IUNjBVWk5DRjBDQTQ2SjhBTUpJTDFSVjZTVC4u&](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=33_wzdLTyk2HVK3vxmXhiM22zxnKwexBp7KK3J51s5IUNjBVWk5DRjBDQTQ2SjhBTUpJTDFSVjZTVC4u&)

Students will be offered their initial test in the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Due to numbers being tested it is necessary to stagger the testing of students, and their return to lessons, over the week by year groups. The table below shows how this will take place;

Year Group	Date of testing	Date of return to lessons
7	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
8	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
9	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
10	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
11	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March

Each student who has given consent will be sent a time slot to come into school to take their Lateral Flow Test. Please note that for Years 7, 8, 10 and 11, students will come to school for a test on the day before they return to school and then go home once the test has been done. For Year 9, students will come to school for their test and remain for the rest of the day after the tests are completed. Further details of appointment times will be sent out on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Students from all years will complete a second test whilst they are in school the following week.

Students who do not have consent for Lateral Flow Testing should remain at home on the testing day and return to school for lessons with the rest of their cohort the following day. If the student is in Year 9 then they should come into school at 1:00pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March to join the rest of their cohort after testing for the rest of the students is completed.

Online work will continue to be set for those days that students are not present in school.

Any individuals who receive a positive test result will need to self-isolate according to government guidelines. We will contact parents where this is the case.

### **Safety protocols and mask wearing in school**

Our safety protocols and systems in school will remain as they were in the autumn term, as will the timings of lessons and organisation of the school day. However, whereas previously the government guidance required students to wear a face mask when moving around inside school but not in classrooms, the updated expectation is that students will now be required to also wear face masks in the classroom for the duration of the lesson. We appreciate that some students may find this uncomfortable and difficult and we will take a supportive approach in these situations.

Students who are exempt from wearing a face mask for medical reasons will not be required to do so. If this is the case, and we are not already aware, please may I request that parents contact us and provide the required evidence. Please email the school at [office@roundhill.bepschools.org](mailto:office@roundhill.bepschools.org)

### **Provision for children of key workers**

Our provision for children of key workers will end on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of March to allow for a natural break before the full-time return of all students.

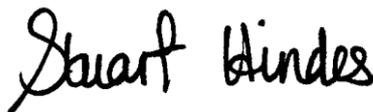
### **Catering**

Students will be required to bring a packed lunch & drinks as there will not be any catering provision up until the Easter break. We hope to be able to offer a full service after Easter. Packed lunches will be provided for Free School Meal students.

Yours sincerely



Tim Marston  
Headteacher



Stuart Hindes  
Head of School