

5th March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Updated Whole School Risk Assessment

Following the latest Government Guidance for the reopening of schools, please find a link to an [Updated Whole School Risk Assessment](#) prior to the students return to school for face to face teaching next week. The relevant operational changes to the previous Risk Assessment are listed below for your convenience:

1) In line with government expectations students (other than those who are exempt) will be expected to wear face coverings in all classrooms where social distancing of 2m cannot be maintained (this will be almost all classes). This rule will not apply to practical PE, Dance and some physical Drama lessons. This measure will be reviewed by the government at Easter.

2) Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings

Parents are reminded of the following important points within the Risk Assessment:

Students must not come into the school if:

- they or a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works#part-1-people-who-develop-symptoms-of-coronavirus>
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- they or a member of their household has had a positive test

Students must immediately cease to attend school and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their (or a member of their household's) symptoms
- the test date if they (or a member of their household) did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)

Children who are confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable by their clinician should continue with their remote learning and not attend school for a COVID-19 test or for face-to-face learning

Message from the Department for Education for all parents / carers – Free Home Testing Kits for adult members of a household containing school aged children

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

through your employer, if they offer testing to employees

by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests

by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Secondary school and college students will continue to access testing through their school or college.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other

Yours Faithfully



Richard Bernard
Headmaster
Northampton School *for Boys*



