

5 March 2021

TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parent/Carer

A huge thanks for all the support we have had with the lateral flow consent forms. Your support has been tremendous and we are now ready and eager to welcome learners back next week.

Our aim is to get everyone back as safely as possible and to do the upmost to reduce the risk of further periods of self-isolation. The tests bring a welcomed defence mechanism and to maximise this we plan to prevent learners who have been tested mixing with those without a test. The staggered start enables us to do this. Learners' behaviour out of the academy is also important and we stress the importance of adhering to the government lockdown rules regarding meeting up with others outside of your household.

A reminder of the plan for next week:

Monday, 8 March 2021	Tuesday, 9 March 2021	Wednesday, 10 March 2021	Thursday, 11 March 2021	Friday, 12 March 2021
08:30-15:30 Y11	08:30-15:30 Y12 Y13	08:30-15:30 Y10	08:30-15:30 Y9	08:30-15:30 Y9
	10:30-15:30 Y11		10:30-15:30 Y10	

Once learners feel confident in doing the lateral flow test they will be given a box of tests to take home. Clear instructions for completing the tests are included in the box and Mr Caine has recorded a short video which will be shown to learners at the academy describing how to carry the test out at home. The government advises parents/carers to supervise learners taking the tests and you may wish to refer to the video below for more details

<https://youtu.be/pdZxG68sm9E>

Contrary to some media reports, in our experience the tests are proving to be very effective at identifying positive cases. Please be aware that a positive result can look like a faint waterline and it is important to wait 30 minutes before you make a judgement.

Once the tests are complete, a photo of the test with the learner's name and date should be sent to the academy and we will log the result.



Please e-mail your result to:
rapidtesting@jcbacademy.com

If the test is positive, learners and their families will need to self-isolate for ten days. More information will be sent out to you once we receive the result. All of the positive tests we have seen to date have been followed up with a PCR test with the NHS and have been confirmed as positive, however the government advises that there is no requirement to follow up with a PCR test.

If a learner feels unwell in any way they will need to get a PCR test from your local NHS testing site. **It is important that learners who are feeling unwell do not come into the academy without receiving a negative test result.**

To ensure the academy's rooms are well ventilated, the windows in classrooms may be open at times during the day. Whilst it is still cool, learners will be able to wear a plain (without large logos/text) black or blue jumper under their blazers. **Coats will not be permitted to be worn in the building** and if a learner is concerned about being cold, we advise they wear a white t-shirt under their shirt in addition to the jumper. I thank parents/carers in advance for their support with this.

I am extremely grateful to all parents/carers for all your support with keeping the academy learners and staff safe and I am looking forward to seeing all our wonderful learners back in the academy next week.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J McGuirk
Principal