



Chipping Sodbury School

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21st July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Start of term 1 Year 7

You are likely to be aware that there is an expectation on secondary schools to test all students for Coronavirus on their return to school in September. All individuals for whom we have parental/carer consent will need to undertake two tests at the start of term 1. To provide consent, you will need to complete the on-line form found [here](#). This is also on the school website. Your son/daughter will not be tested if we have not received consent.

Friday 3rd September, day 1 testing for Year 7

To enable testing to happen, we need to have a staggered start to term 1. When students attend for their first test, they will need to arrive for a specified time, have the test and then **go home**. There will be no lessons on that day to enable staff to conduct the testing for large numbers of students. Uniform *will not* need to be worn on this first day of testing. The second day for testing will take place during a regular school day, students will be taken out of a lesson to enable this to happen.

Your son/daughter should attend on **Friday 3rd September** for their first test. He/she should arrive for the specified time, we will conduct the test according to surname in alphabetical order. If your son/daughter's surname begins with:

A-E Arrive at school at 9.15am
F-K Arrive at school at 10.00am
L-R Arrive at school at 10.45am
S-Y Arrive at school at 11.30am

The in-school testing will take place in the Gym. Students are to enter the site next to the Gym – this will be the only open gate, they will see the fire door to the Gym open where they will be guided to queue. There will be plenty of staff around to meet and greet students and support them, they will not be on their own. If anyone is anxious, we will help them.

- Social distancing *must* be followed when queuing, face coverings will be encouraged until asked to remove it for testing purposes.
- Students should arrive in their allotted time, **no earlier or later please**.
- There will be limited car parking capacity in front of the Sports Centre for parents/carers to wait during their allotted time. We ask parents/carers **not** to leave your cars, you will not be able to accompany your son/daughter for the test due to limited space and the need to socially distance. However, please be reassured there will be plenty of staff available to support our students. There is no available parking at the front of the school.
- When students enter the Gym, they will be asked to use hand sanitiser and will check-in for their appointment.
- Students must remain socially distanced at all times whilst in the Gym. At check in, students will collect their registration card with a barcode on it, they will pick up a yellow tray with the swab and will be guided to an available booth.



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- Everyone will administer their own swab but there will be trained staff to support the process and a number of adults available to help and offer assistance/reassurance should it be required.
- There will be a one-way system through the Gym and everyone should exit through the girl's changing rooms. Again, there will be plenty of staff around to guide and help; nobody will be left to work it out themselves. Students should then leave the site immediately. Refer to the film clip on the website to view how this system.
- If the weather looks as though it will be wet, please ensure your son/daughter is suitably clothed as he/she may need to queue for a short period of time outside.
- You will be contacted if your son/daughter tests positive and you will then need to follow any up-to-date guidelines regarding self-isolation. If you do not hear from us, assume the test is negative.

We strongly recommend you support your son/daughter at home with testing during the summer, especially prior to the start of term. Whilst this is not a requirement, it will help your son/daughter become familiar with the routine. Students attending summer school **will not** be tested and **will not** be required to produce evidence of a negative test as this is not part of the DfE guidance.

The second day of testing for Year 7 students will be Wednesday 8th September during lesson time.

Monday 6th September

All Year 7 students should arrive from 8.40am and go to the Drama Hall for their first assembly; everyone must be in school by 8.50am. Again, there will be plenty of staff around to help guide students to the correct location. We will run a full programme of induction in the morning and then lessons will start after lunch. Please note the end of the school day from September is 3.05pm. Everyone should be in full school uniform, basic equipment should be in a school bag and either a packed lunch or lunch money for those who wish to purchase food on-site. Free school meals will of course be available for those who are entitled. There are no PE lessons for Year 7 students on Monday 6th September so PE kits will not need to be brought into school on that day.

We will run the rest of the week as a regular working week. Timetables will be issued on Monday 6th September.

Cycling to school – please ensure your son/daughter wears a helmet when cycling and he/she must bring a lock to secure their bike during the day.

I appreciate this may appear complicated and if you or your son/daughter have any queries, please follow this step by step advice should you need to seek clarity:

- Re-read the letter – the answer to your question may be here
- Use all the information on the website
- If your question is about the date/time of the first test, please email us on: testing@chippingsodburyschool.com please only use this email address as a last resort. This email address will be available from 1st September 2021.

If you have a son/daughter in another year group, you will receive a different letter identifying the days for testing. It remains for me to wish you all a very enjoyable and healthy summer and we very much look forward to welcoming our new students as they join our wonderful school.

Yours sincerely,



Katherine Turner
Headteacher