



Chipping Sodbury School

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21st July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Start of term 1 Years 8-13

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. We will assume the consent or refusal to consent from earlier this year still stands unless you let us know otherwise. Your son/daughter will not be tested if we have not received consent.

Overview of the staggered start to term 1

	Fri 3 rd Sept	Mon 6 th Sept	Tues 7 th Sept	Wed 8 th Sept	Thurs 9 th Sept	Fri 10 th Sept
Testing	7, 8, 12* & 13 (students come in at their allocated time for testing then leave site)	9, 10 & 11 (students come in at their allocated time for testing then leave site)	None	7, 8, 12 & 13 During lesson time	9, 10 & 11 During lesson time	None
Teaching	*Year 12 Induction immediately after testing at 8.45am, end 12.30pm	Induction Day for Year 7, 8.50am start Post 16 teaching starts for Years 12 and 13	8.50am Year 7 to drama hall Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 in tutor bases for tutor time (8.50am) P3 onwards – Normal lessons for all students	Normal lessons for all	Normal lessons for all	Normal lessons for all

Friday 3rd September, day 1 testing for Year 7, 8, 12 and 13

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**. The exception will be Year 12 who will be tested and then should go to the 6th Form Centre to start their Cotswold Edge Induction. There will be no other 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.



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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.

Timings for Friday 3rd September (testing for Years 7, 8, 12 and 13)

8.30am – All Post 16 students, years 12 and 13 (Year 12 students should then go to the 6th Form Centre to start their induction which will end at 12.30pm).

These are the arrival times:

Year 7 testing 9.15-11.30am (a separate letter with more detail has been sent to parents/carers)

Year 8 Avon House 1.00pm
Frome House 1.30pm
Severn House 2.00pm
Trym House 2.30pm

Monday 6th September (testing for Years 9, 10 and 11)

Year 9 Avon House 8.45am
Frome House 9.15am
Severn House 9.45am
Trym House 10.15am

Year 10 Avon House 10.45am
Frome House 11.30am
Severn House 12.00 noon
Trym House 12.30pm

Year 11 Avon House 1.30pm
Frome House 2.00pm
Severn House 2.30pm
Trym House 3.00pm

When conducting the test:

- 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.
- 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 be familiar with the routine.

We will run the rest of the week as a regular working week; the second day of testing for all year groups will be during lesson time later in the week. All year groups will be issued their timetables during their first tutor time with the exception of Year 13 who have already have theirs. Cotswold Edge transport will run as usual from the start of term.

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:

- i. Re-read the letter – the answer to your question may be here
- ii. Use all the information on the website
- iii. 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.

At the time of writing this letter, our plans follow all the guidance for September. However, should this change during the summer holidays, I will be in touch at the start of September. Once we have mass tested students, there will be no more staggered starts or ending to the school day. Students should be ready for tutor time at 8.50am and school will finish at 3.05pm for everyone.

It remains for me to wish you all a very enjoyable and healthy summer and we very much look forward to returning to a more settled national picture regarding the pandemic. Fingers crossed!

Yours sincerely,



Katherine Turner
Headteacher