



Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Return to school testing schedule

You will have already received our end of term letter with key information regarding return to school arrangements for January. I would like to highlight a couple of amendments we have made to testing dates/times and return to school dates. We intend to have children remain in school on the day of testing if they have received a negative result. This allows us to begin lessons earlier and hopefully helps with childcare arrangements for younger pupils. As with all plans, they are subject to change if the government issue any new guidance during the Christmas holiday so please be aware of this and we endeavour to notify you of any changes to the current arrangements as soon as possible. You will receive a notification of testing dates 24 hours prior to the test.

On- site Testing in January:

The Department for Education (DfE) have asked us to resume on-site testing in the first week of January. We will be offering pupils one on-site lateral flow test on Wednesday 5th January or Thursday 6th January. Pupils that receive a negative result will remain on-site and will go to normal lessons. Pupils that receive a positive result will be sent home and asked to book a PCR test. It is important that you take note of the test start time and the return to school date from the schedule below.

We have previously asked parents whether they give consent, or not, for these tests to be administered by staff and we will continue to fulfil your request. If you did not give consent previously but wish to do so now please let us know. If you have previously given consent (in March/September of this year) we can continue to use this. If, however, you wish to opt out of testing for your child, then please contact us at office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk to inform us of this.

Please do not send your child in to school if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 and instead book a PCR test if you have not done so already.

These tests are intended to detect anyone who may have the virus but not show any symptoms, and they will be a key control measure helping us to minimise transmission of the virus. Please see the following timetable which has been planned for pupil testing overleaf:

Year 11	1 st TEST	Return to school:
	Wednesday 5 th January 8.30am start time	Wednesday 5 th January – Pupils remain in school following a negative test
Year 7	1 st TEST	Return to school:
	Wednesday 5 th January 11.00am start time	Wednesday 5 th January – Pupils remain in school following a negative test
Year 10	1 st TEST	Return to school:
	Wednesday 5 th January 1.00pm start time	Wednesday 5 th January – Pupils remain in school following a negative test
Year 8	1 st TEST	Return to school:
	Thursday 6 th January 8.30am start time	Thursday 6 th January – Pupils remain in school following a negative test
Year 9	1 st TEST	Return to school:
	Thursday 6 th January 10.00am start time	Thursday 6 th January – Pupils remain in school following a negative test

If there are any changes to the Government guidance during the holidays, we will notify you by text message. I appreciate your continued support and I hope you have a restful half term.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Bannon (Associate Principal)

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