

9th December 2021

Dear Parent/carer

January Covid-19 testing in secondary schools

The government has asked all secondary schools to test their pupils once on-site on return in January 2022. This is in response to the Omicron variant and the scientific advice that testing continues to play a vital role in keeping COVID-19 out of schools. Testing all pupils in school boosts testing participation and will help reduce transmission after a period of social mixing over the school holidays. The government is providing the tests, PPE and funding to support schools with this, as before. This is not compulsory but is strongly advised. After this test on return, pupils should continue to test in line with government guidelines, which is currently to take a LFD test at home twice weekly and to isolate and take a PCR test if they get a positive result.

At SBL Academy the testing will take place as follows:

- When students return to school in January they will be offered one lateral flow test at our on-site testing centre before they go to their first lesson.
- To enable all students to be tested on arrival we will be staggering the times and days that students return to school – this will be spread over Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th of January. The table on the next page shows the times and dates that each tutor group should return.
- On the first day back students should enter the school through 'Gate 2' – the same as previous testing arrangements. Students must arrive at the gate no earlier than their allotted time.
- If students are not participating in the testing, they must still report to the registration desk and they will be directed straight to their lesson.
- Once students have been tested they must follow their normal school timetable.
- Please ensure students are wearing their full uniform at the start of term 3 as this will be checked during the registration process.
- Year 7 tutor groups have been allocated individual slots between 3.05pm and 4.25pm. As this is not during the school day, uniform is not expected.

		Term 3		
		Wednesday 5th	Thursday 6th	
TESTING ARRIVAL TIMES	08:45	N/A	N/A	
	09:05	12CBA 12CSL 12LOS 12MSS 13CSM 13SRO	8At1 8Ca1 8Eu1 8Ti1	
	10:05	11At1 11Ca1 11Eu1 11Ti1	8At2 8Ca2 8Eu2 8Ti2	
	Break			
	11:25	11At2 11Ca2 11Eu2	9At1 9Ca1 9Eu1 9Ti1	
	12:25	10At1 10Ca1 10Eu1 10Ti1	9Ca2 9Eu2 9Ti2	
	Lunch			
	14:05	10At2 10Ca2 10Eu2	N/A	
	3:05 - 4:25	Year 7s to attend at the following times:		N/A
		3.05 7At1		
3.15 7Ca1				
3.25 7Eu1				
3.35 7Ti1				
3.45 7At2				
3.55 7Ca2				
4.05 7Eu2				
4.15 7Ti2				

Providing consent for testing

If you previously gave consent for your child to be tested you do not need to give it again. If however, you did not give consent and now want your child to take part in this new testing programme, please email enquiries@sblacademy.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support with the measures we are taking to keep our students and staff safe, and in school.

Yours faithfully,



Dean Anderson
Principal



Andrea Arlidge
Chief Executive