



St Ursula's Convent School

A Humanities College and Teaching School

Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London, SE10 8HN

T: (0)20 8858 4613 F: (0)208 269 0237 E: admin@stursulas.com W: www.stursulas.com

Headteacher: Mrs Catrina Hamilton NPQH, Bed.Hons, Accredited SENCO

Wednesday 24th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this email finds you safe and well.

I am writing to provide you with initial information regarding your child's return to school from the 8th March 2021 and explain the government guidance on lateral flow tests.

Since January, lateral flow testing has been taking place twice a week at St Ursula's for staff members and key worker students who have been attending school. It has been a successful programme and has become an established part of our weekly school operations. If you'd like more information about what a lateral flow test is, please click [here](#).

With schools being open to more students from 8th March, the new government guidance asks secondary schools to expand this testing provision so that all students are able to have lateral flow tests in school. Schools are asked to ensure students have three lateral flow tests across the first two weeks' back, with each test being 3-5 days apart.

The guidance also states that the first lateral flow test must take place on entry to school.

This means that we will be staggering the return to school by bringing students back to school one year group at a time. Each student in the year group will be given an allocated time slot to return to school. Students must arrive at their allocated time to ensure that their first test can be conducted in line with social distancing guidelines.

Initial Schedule

The initial schedule is below, but, please note that we will be writing to you to inform you of the specific time to return on their allocated day. For example, if your child is in Year 7, you will receive a letter shortly informing you the exact time she needs to return to school on Wednesday 10th March 2021.

Once they return to school and they have had their first lateral flow test, and if they have a negative result, they will then be able to stay in school for their lessons.

Day	AM	PM
Monday 8th March 2021	Year 11	Year 10
Tuesday 9th March 2021	Year 9	Year 8
Wednesday 10th March 2021	Year 7	





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This means that by Wednesday 10th March, all students (who have tested negative) will be on site. For example, if your child is in Year 11, they will be allocated a time slot for testing on Monday 8th March in the morning. If they receive a negative test result, they will be able to remain in school, following their usual timetable. Similarly, if your child is Year 8, they will be allocated a time slot for testing on the afternoon of Tuesday 9th March 2021. If they receive a negative test result, they will be able to remain in school, following their usual timetable.

After their first lateral flow test, students will then be tested **twice more in school** under the supervision of the Greenwich testing team. After this time, the Government has informed us that students will be allowed to complete two tests at home per week under the supervision of an adult. We will share the details of this as soon as we receive further information from the DFE.

Consent for lateral flow testing

By the end of the week, you will receive information about how you are required to give consent via Edulink for your child's in school testing.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if my child's lateral flow test result is positive?

If your child's lateral flow test is positive, you will be contacted and asked to collect your child immediately. They will then need to go and get a PCR test to confirm the result. Your child will then need to self-isolate for 10 days in line with Government guidance.

What happens if my child is identified as being a close contact of someone who has tested positive?

If your child is a close contact of someone who has tested positive, they will also be asked to isolate for 10 days in line with Government guidance.

What happens if my child's lateral flow test is negative?

If your child's lateral flow test is negative, your child will be able to remain in school and continue to use protective measures (e.g. mask wearing). We will only contact you if they test positive.

On the schedule, my child does not return to school on Monday 8th March, do they still need to complete school work during this time?

Yes - if your child is in school, they will have face-to-face teaching. If your child is at home, they will have remote teaching until they return to school.

Where can I find out more about lateral flow tests?

Government information about lateral flow tests can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms>





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We will be in touch again in the near future with more details about the plans for full school reopening and how your child can best prepare for this.

Best wishes,

Mrs Adams

Deputy Headteacher

