



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Secondary Phase Re-opening from March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Secondary Parents / Carers,

I hope that you and your loved ones are all safe and well.

As I am sure you are aware, the government has instructed all schools to open in full **to all pupils** from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We were delighted with this announcement and are very much looking forward to welcoming the pupils back.

Before secondary pupils return to lessons full-time, we will first invite in pupils whose parents / carers have consented to take 'lateral flow tests' for COVID-19. This is an essential part of the government's school re-opening strategy so that any asymptomatic COVID-19 cases are identified and the virus does not spread within our school community. If you have not yet given consent, we would strongly encourage you to contact us and grant consent so that we can test all pupils in the interest of the whole community's health and safety. Once again, here is the link to our consent form should you still need it [tinyurl.com/5yelsh9n](https://tinyurl.com/5yelsh9n)

Given that the initial priority will be COVID-19 lateral flow testing, we will be staggering secondary pupils' return to school. The full return to school and testing schedule will be as follows:

Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	The testing process will be explained to pupils during each year group's online Science lessons. Live online lessons will continue until the end of the day on Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Live learning will stop for all pupils and be replaced with pre-recorded video content and / or other learning activities set through Show My Homework up to and including Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March.  Year 9 pupils with consent will come into school for testing only*. Years 7 & 8 will stay at home and continue with online learning.
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 pupils with consent will come into school for testing only*. Years 7 & 9 will stay at home and continue with online learning.
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 pupils with consent will come into school for testing only*. Years 8 & 9 will stay at home and continue with online learning.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	All secondary pupils will return to school full-time from 8.20am (the usual start time) and will follow their original timetable from Autumn Term. Their day will begin with 2 periods of tutor time to help them settle back in. Year 8 pupils with timetabled PE lessons for Thursday periods 1 & 2 will therefore need to come to school in uniform, not PE kit.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	A rolling programme of COVID-19 testing will be in place from Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March until all pupils who have given consent have been tested 3 times.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March onwards	From Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March onwards, pupils who have completed 3 tests in school will be given tests to take at home twice weekly. A testing facility will remain open on site for pupils who are unable to self-administer the tests.

\* Individual testing timetables and instructions will be sent to parents / carers and pupils next week. Pupils without consent to take a lateral flow test **must remain at home until Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March**.

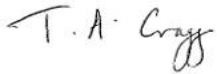
From 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> March the school will remain open to the group of pupils who have been attending during lockdown.

On the pages below is a reminder of the key COVID-related changes to our routines and procedures that will remain in place on the pupils' return. Please do spend some time with your child reading through the information and checking that you understand all of the measures in place.

If you have any specific questions about the re-opening, please do email [Enquiries.NSWL@nishkamschools.org](mailto:Enquiries.NSWL@nishkamschools.org) and we will respond to your queries as quickly as we can.

Many thanks for all your support during this period of lockdown and let us all hope for a more settled path forwards during the rest of 2021.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. A. Cragg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and a stylized 'C'.

Tom Cragg, Principal

## PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR CHILD

A reminder of secondary phase routines whilst COVID restrictions remain in place

### Groupings / Movement around the building

- Pupils will only be able to mix with pupils in their half year group or year group bubble
- On arrival, during breaks and for fire drills or emergency evacuations, pupils will have a specific zone to go to:

7 Compassion and Humility: half of the secondary MUGA, nearest the primary fence
7 Contentment and Truth: half of the secondary MUGA, farthest from the primary fence
8 Compassion, Humility: half of the secondary outside social space, nearest the primary fence
8 Contentment, Truth and Love: half of the secondary outside social space, farthest from primary fence
Year 9: Secondary gardens (outside the external PE changing room doors)

Arrangements for wet break / lunch are as follows:

7 Compassion and Humility: tutor bases
7 Contentment and Truth: tutor bases
8 Compassion and Humility: Faith Space (on arrival, accessed through secondary dining)
8 Contentment, Truth and Love: Main Hall (on arrival, accessed directly through the external main hall doors)
Year 9: Sports Hall (on arrival, accessed through the side entrance leading to the PE corridor)

- There will be a one-way system in place around the building, which must be strictly adhered to.
- There will be year group-specific toilets.
- Assemblies and prayer sessions in the main hall will not be possible. Instead, these will be pre-recorded and shown during tutor times. This will also apply to class assemblies.
- The library will not be generally available at the start or end of the day.
- Pupils will need to keep **2 metre distance from teachers at all times.**

### Curriculum

- There will be a 'recovery curriculum' in place, focused around revisiting content from this term and addressing gaps with individual pupils.
- All pupils will have KATs the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> March in order to find out how much information pupils have retained and to inform teachers' planning for the summer term.
- Some subjects, such as Food Preparation & Nutrition and Music, will continue to adapt their curriculum significantly.
- We will continue to emphasise the importance of reading across all subject areas.
- There will be academic and wellbeing-related 1-2-1 and small group intervention sessions for pupils who require it through the National Tutoring Programme.

## Shape of the school day

Here is a reminder of the current shape of the secondary day:

Session	Timings
Arrival	08.00 – 08.15
Period 1	08.20 – 09.10
Period 2	09.10 – 10.00
Tutor time / Prayer	10.00 – 10.20
Break	10.20 – 10.40
Period 3	10.40 – 11.30
Period 4	11.30 – 12.20
Lunch	12.20 – 13.00
Period 5	13.00 – 13.50
Period 6	13.50 – 14.40
Period 7	Tuesdays – Thursdays only, from 14.40 – 15.30

## Remote Learning

Plans for remote learning will remain in place to ensure that learning can continue in cases of self-isolation. Should this situation arise:

- Show My Homework and Microsoft Teams will be used as a means for providing online learning and uploading resources.
- Where possible, pupils will be able to access live lessons through Microsoft Teams.
- If a teacher is unwell and unable to provide resources, pupils will be directed to the resources on National Oak Academy, Seneca, SAM Learning or subject-specific websites e.g. Active Learn for MFL or Hegarty Maths.

## Behaviour / Pastoral themes

- Pupils should wear full school uniform.
- Pupils will wear PE kit all day on days when they have timetabled PE lessons.
- Lockers will not be available until further notice.
- Detentions will still take place, but in separate rooms for each year group.
- It is essential that pupils follow the new rules relating to movement around the building.
- Pupils will be expected to help out much more with day to day tidying and cleaning, given the increased importance and demands in this area.

## Equipment

- Pupils should minimise the equipment they bring into school, but ensure that they have pens and pencils as required, as we will not be able to lend them stationary.
- Whilst we have sanitiser points around the school building, we would also ask pupils to bring their own hand sanitiser.
- Pupils should bring in their own headphones, in particular for use in Music and Computing lessons.

## Change to face covering rules

- One key new routine to note is that **pupils will be required to wear face coverings in lessons**, at least until Easter. Please ensure that your child brings a face covering to school every day.

## Clubs

- Clubs will not be available immediately. When they are phased back in, they will be for half year group or year group bubbles only.

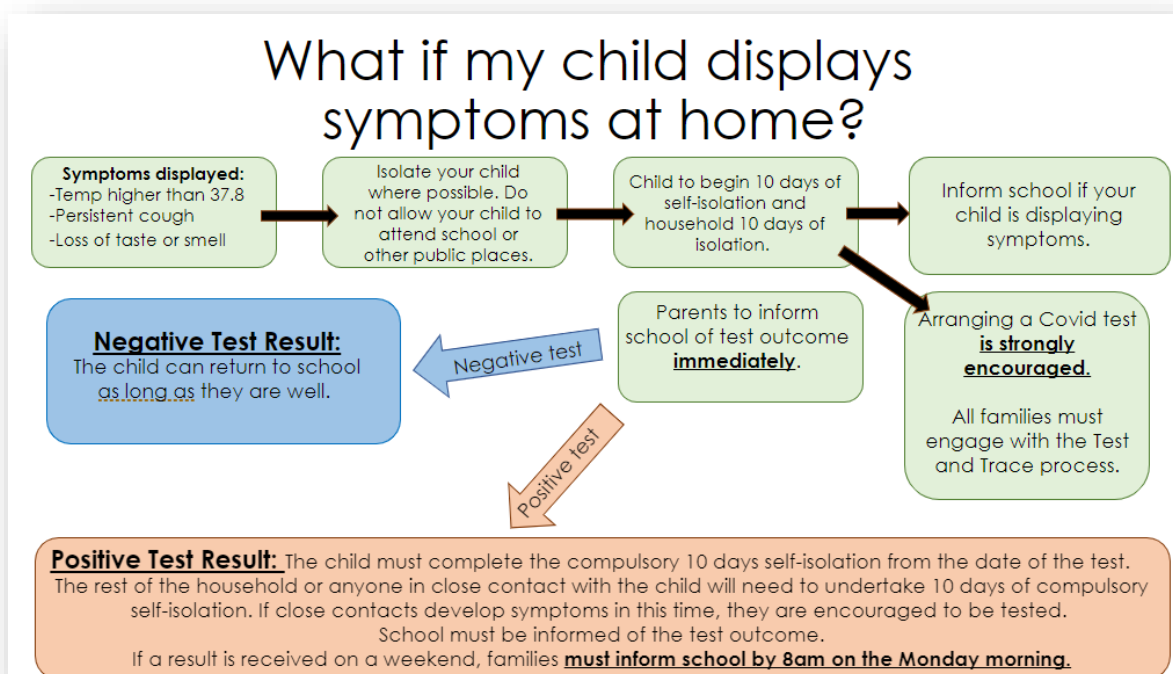
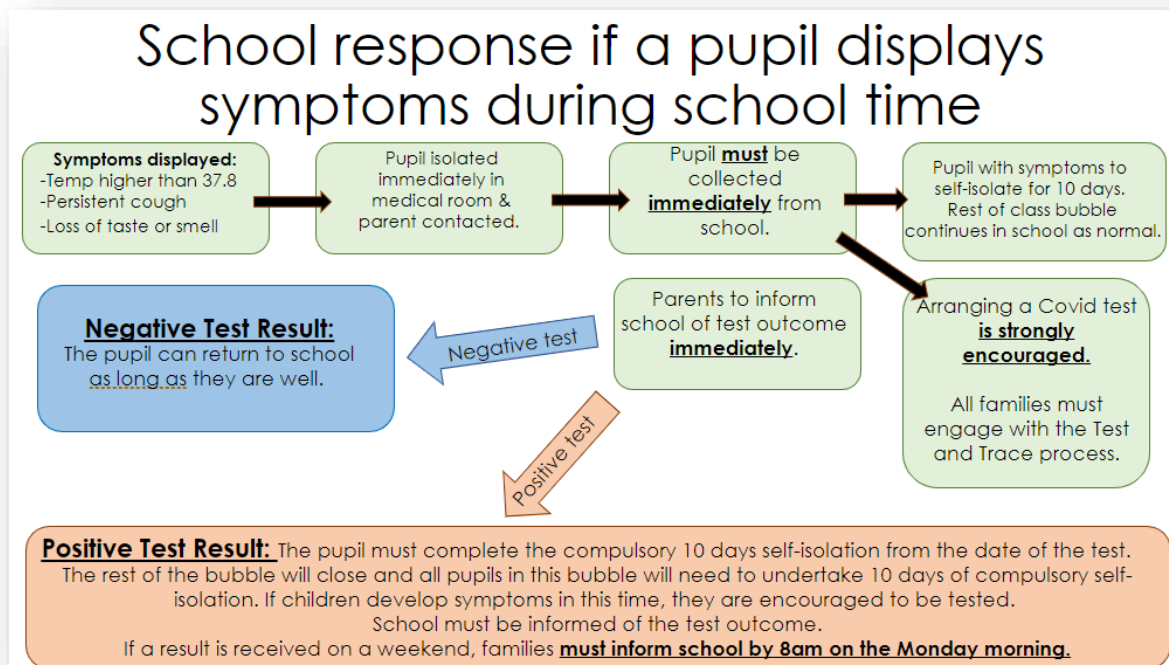
## Trips

- Unfortunately, we will still not be able to run trips until further notice.

## School bus service

We can confirm that our service provider, New Bharat Coaches, will be able to re-start our bus service. Please note that this service will not be available to secondary pupils until **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March** so that one round of lateral flow testing can take place before pupils mix. Please contact Raj at [info@newbharat.co.uk](mailto:info@newbharat.co.uk) if you wish to sign up for the service and have not already done so.

## Coronavirus Symptoms



Please do note that this information will be continually reviewed and is subject to change in line with any further government guidance updates.