



**Horizons Specialist Academy Trust**  
*Providing infinite opportunities*

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**James Newman**

Principal

4/01/2022

Dear parents and carers

Happy New Year. I would like to provide you with a few updates and reassurances around the return to school and how we will operate over the next few weeks. **Firstly, I am delighted that we are able to welcome all students back tomorrow on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January at the usual time.** I have highlighted some of the key points you need to know below and I will send a letter home with students with further information later in the week.

### Testing

Please can I ask all those who are able to, to carry out a LFT test at home prior to students coming back to school tomorrow. This will help ensure that other students are less likely to catch it. The school will also be offering tests on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January and thank you to all who have provided consent for this. There has been a change in medical advice that now enables anyone who has had COVID in the last 9 days are now encouraged to test again. The consent form is still available online if you have not already provided it.

### Masks/Face coverings

As you may have seen in the media. It was announced on Sunday that students who are able to are now expected to wear masks throughout the school day when inside. I fully understand that all of our students have different needs and this may not be possible so please reassure students who may be worried about this. If possible I would strongly encourage the use of face coverings if using shared transport as this can be an area where the virus can spread more easily.

### Isolation

The rules on isolation and close contacts have changed so please use the NHS websites to check how this may impact on you or your son/daughter. If you have any queries please contact school and we will advise where possible. Given the complexities of different circumstances, we may need to get back to you after your first enquiry to ensure that we are providing the most up to date information.



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Many thanks for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact school should you need any help, advice or support

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Newman', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

James Newman

Principal of Abbey Hill Academy