



July 2021

Dear parent/carer/student

As we approach the end of term new guidance from the DFE on the restrictions for September have now been published, which I will try and summarise and explain how this will work at Wood Green.

Testing

All secondary students should receive 2 on-site lateral flow tests, 3 to 5 days apart on their return in the Autumn Term. In order for us to be able to facilitate this please can you complete the form for each of your children, at the following link no later than 23:59 on 1st September 2021: <https://forms.office.com/r/C3P1zq7ixs>

For their first test students should only attend school for their test (appointment times will be sent in September) and should go immediately home straight afterwards. For their second test, students should arrive at school for 08:25 and will remain in school for the whole day (unless they test positive). ALL students will be required to wear a face covering when they enter the school.

The timetable for testing is below.

Year	06.09.21	07.09.21	08.09.21	09.09.21	10.09.21	13.09.21
7	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school	In school	In school
8	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school	In school	In school
9	Not in School	Not in School	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school
10	Not in School	Not in School	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school
11	Not in School	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school	In school
VIth Form	Not in School	In school for 1 st test only	Not in School	Not in School	In school	In school

Following the tests, students will be expected to test twice a week at home until the end of September, when the DFE will undertake a review.

Any positive coming from a lateral flow test will need to be confirmed by a PCR test (more information is in the additional letter attached to this email).

Please note that the canteen will not be open for the first two weeks of term and students will need to bring their own lunch to school. Students that are entitled to a free school meal will be provided with a grab bag. The canteen will re-open on Monday 20th September.

Bubbles

Bubbles, the term used to keep students in consistent groups, will no longer be in operation from the end of this term and we intend for student movement around the school to be at pre-pandemic levels so that students can experience the dedicated facilities around the school. However, students will need to enter and exit the school via the following gates:

Year Group	Entrance/Exit
7	St Paul's Rd
8	St Paul's Rd
9	Wood Green Rd
10	Wood Green Rd
11	Wood Green Rd
VIth Form	St Paul's Rd

Face Coverings

From the end of term, unless otherwise advised by Sandwell PHE, face coverings (other than for during testing) will not be required in school. This measure (as with others) may have to be reimplemented on the advice of Sandwell PHE or DFE at short notice, therefore it is advisable for students to carry a face covering with them or have access to one if this measure has to be introduced. If students wish to wear a face covering around the school this will be allowed; however, if students wish to wear a face covering in lessons this must be made in agreement with their year leader and must be a transparent one so as not to inhibit communication.

Close contacts and isolation

From 16 August 2021, any student under the age of 18 and 4 months will not have to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS test and trace as being a close contact of someone that has tested positive, instead they will be advised to take a PCR test.

Students that are 18 years and 4 months or over will not have to self-isolate if they have had two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine; those that have not will need to self-isolate as per the NHS guidance.

Control measures in school

1) Good hygiene in School

Students will be expected to bring their own hand sanitiser and use this on a regular basis as should be their current practice.

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach also remains important and students should follow this approach.

2) Enhanced cleaning

As is current practice, students will be expected to wipe down their desks at the end of each lesson and the school will ensure that regularly touched areas around the school are cleaned regularly

3) Ventilation

The school will continue to be well ventilated with windows and doors open.

4) Following PHE advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases

Students, staff and other adults will be expected to follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what they should do.

Students, staff and visitors MUST NOT come into school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms, however mild or have tested positive for COVID-19.

The school should be informed of this at the earliest opportunity.

Mobile Phones

Once again please can I thank the vast majority of parents/carers that ensure that their child does not bring their mobile phone to school, however there have been a number of incidents in the last term that we have had to deal with, therefore for clarity, students in years 7 – 11 **MUST NOT** bring mobile phones onto the school site. If there is an emergency safeguarding reason for a student to have a mobile phone on them on the journey to and from school, that parents **MUST** request temporary permission from Mrs Bailey in writing with the understanding that the phone **MUST** be handed in to YL/SSM each day for the period of time that the emergency safeguarding reason is in place.

If students are found to be in possession of a mobile phone it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe. Mobile phones confiscated on a Monday or Tuesday will be held in the school safe until the end of the school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 2.40-3.00pm (in the event of school finishing early, phones due to be collected, can be picked up between from the end of school and the following 20 minutes e.g. 12.00 and 12.20pm.). Phones confiscated on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday will be confiscated until the end of the following school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 2.40-3.00pm. If, however, the return of the mobile phone falls in a school holiday, the phone can be collected on the first day back to school by parents/carers between 2.40 - 3.00pm with the exception of the summer holiday, in which case the phone can be collected by parents/carers on the first Friday of the holidays between 2.40 -3.00pm. **So, if a phone is confiscated on Wed 20th Oct, Thurs 21st Oct or Fri 22nd Oct, it will not be returned until Monday 1st November 2021 (between 2.40 – 3.00pm) as per our policy. EXCEPTIONS to this policy will not be made and ANY student that refuses to hand in their mobile phone when asked to, will be issued with a Permanent Exclusion. This sanction has been consistently applied where in the rare occasions this has happened in the past.**

School Day – September 2021

From September the school day will be as follows:

08.25	Students arrive at school
08.30	Registration / Assembly
08.45	Lesson 1
9.45	Lesson 2
10.45	Break
11.00	Lesson 3
12.00	Period 4
13.00	Lunch
13.40	Lesson 5
14.40	End of School Day

Please may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and patience in what has been an extraordinary year. Enjoy the Summer break and I look forward to the school being a little more 'normal' in 2021/22.

Many thanks and stay safe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Topham', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Topham
Headteacher