

3rd January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to confirm the arrangements for the start of term and to share with you changes to our COVID-19 risk assessment as a result of the updated guidance from the Department for Education which we received on Sunday 2nd January 2022.

Start of Term Arrangements

As part of updated guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and in response to the Omicron variant, all secondary schools have been instructed to conduct onsite Lateral Flow Testing for students before they return to classrooms in January. This initial Lateral Flow Testing is an important part of keeping the school community safe after the holiday period.

Due to the size of our school and year groups, this will require a staggered start to face-to-face teaching. Arrangements for each year group and population are shown below.

Year Group and Population	Testing Day	First day of face-to-face lessons
Year 11 (D Pop & N Pop)	Tuesday 4th January	Wednesday 5th January
Year 10 (D Pop only)	Tuesday 4th January	Thursday 6th January
Year 10 (N Pop only)	Wednesday 5th January	Thursday 6th January
Year 9 (D Pop & N Pop)	Wednesday 5th January	Thursday 6th January
Year 8 (D Pop & N Pop)	Thursday 6th January	Friday 7th January
Year 7 (D Pop & N Pop)	Friday 7th January	Monday 10th January

Additional information regarding your child's allocated time for Lateral Flow Testing has already been shared with you separately. If you have not received this information, please contact exams@kelvinhall.net.

Please note, that the guidance on Lateral Flow Testing for students has now changed slightly. **All students should participate in Lateral Flow Testing, even those who have had a positive PCR result within the last 90 days.** Students should not attend for Lateral Flow Testing if they are currently isolating as a result of testing positive for COVID-19.

Home Learning Resources

In order to minimise this disruption, from **Wednesday 5th January**, any students not attending face-to-face lessons will receive remote education resources through Google Classroom.

Google Classroom can be accessed using the Google Classroom app on phones and tables, on a Chromebook, or on a laptop or desktop PC. Students will need to use their Kelvin Hall Google Account details to log in.

[Google Classroom](#)

[Google Classroom Cheat Sheet for Students](#)

Teachers will add lesson material to Google Classroom in time for the start of their lessons. Many of these lessons will include support videos, self-marking quizzes, or self-assessments. Please remember that for some lessons students have different subjects, so students may not always have the same lesson as their friends. On Tuesday 4th January, we will share student timetables with you to help you check what students should be working on.

If you have any problems accessing this online remote education material, parents and students can contact us at homelearning@kelvinhall.net. This email address will be monitored regularly throughout the day and we will make the best effort to resolve issues for you as soon as possible.

COVID-19 Risk Assessment

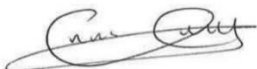
As a result of the updated guidance, there have been some changes to our COVID-19 Risk Assessment. Please see a summary of the most important information for students below.

- All students should participate in Lateral Flow Testing on the return to school in January and should continue this testing twice weekly at home. This includes students who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, as long as they have finished their isolation period.
- All students must wear masks when inside the school building, including in classrooms during their lessons. The only exception to this is students who are medically exempt. Students can remove masks when eating and drinking. We have been informed that this guidance will be reviewed by Wednesday 26th January.
- It is the responsibility of parents and students to provide appropriate face masks for use in school.
- Students who are identified as a close contact of somebody with COVID-19 should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school unless they have a positive result or develop symptoms of COVID-19.
- NHS Test and Trace are responsible for notifying people who are identified as a close contact of somebody with COVID-19.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19 on a PCR test are required to self-isolate for 10 days. Students can complete an LFD test on Day 6 and Day 7 (24 hours apart). If both of these tests are negative and the student does not have a high temperature, they can end their isolation and return to school on Day 8.
- Home Learning resources will be provided through Google Classroom for any students who need to self-isolate.

An updated version of the Risk Assessment will be added to the school website this week. You can access this on the [policies section of our website](#).

This is not the start of the Spring term that we were hoping for but we must follow the instructions from the Department for Education in order to keep the school community safe. I would like to thank you for your support in starting the Spring Term smoothly and safely.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Christopher Leng
Head of School
Kelvin Hall School