

Alderbrook School

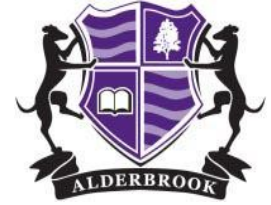
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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer. We are very much looking forward to meeting our new cohorts in Years 7 and 12, and to welcoming all students back to Alderbrook in September. I am writing to remind you of the arrangements for the start of the Autumn Term.

Start of Term, September 2021

The start of the school year will be staggered to enable all students to be tested and to safely return to school. Testing and the return of students to school will begin on Friday 3 September. Start dates for year groups will be staggered as the Government has requested that schools offer all students two Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests on site, spaced three to four days apart. Testing is voluntary and students will be allowed to attend school even if they decide not to take part in testing. However, we would like to encourage everyone to join in the asymptomatic testing programme to help break transmission links by identifying those that may be carrying the virus unknowingly – particularly as most students will not have been testing for a long period over the summer and will need to re-establish the habit of regular twice weekly testing.

Following the first of two LFD tests, students can return to school. Please note that the Government guidance in September is for schools to cease contact tracing, and not to close classes and bubbles. We therefore strongly encourage all our students to be tested as they return to school.

For further information on consent and testing FAQs, please see the letter sent to parents in July, available [here](#). **Parental consent for on site testing is required. If you have not done so already could you please complete and return your consent asap.**

Dates and times for testing and full return to school

The tables below show:

- The dates of your child's first Lateral Flow test (for students with consent)
- The start date for full time, on-site, teaching for students in each year group.

No student will be penalised for not testing, all students in a year group return on the same day (Lateral Flow Testing for each year occurs the day before each particular year group returns). If your child is not being tested – they do not need to attend school until the date of full return for their year group.

Date of 1st Lateral Flow Test	
a.m.	p.m.
Friday 3/9/21	
	Year 7
	Surname A-C: 1.00 - 1.30
	Surname D-H: 1.30 - 2.00
	Surname I-O: 2.00 - 2.30
	Surname P-S: 2.30 - 3.00
	Surname T-Z: 3.00 - 3.30
Monday 6/9/21	
Year 12	Year 11
Surname A-J: 8.30 - 9.00	Surname A-D: 11.30 - 12.00
Surname K-Z: 9.00 - 9.30	Surname E-I: 12.00 - 12.30
Year 13	Surname J-L: 12.30 - 1.00
Surname A-L: 9.30 - 10.00	Surname M-R: 1.00 - 1.30
Surname K-Z: 10.00 - 10.30	Surname S-Z: 1.30 - 2.00
Tuesday 7/9/21	
Year 10	Year 9
Surname A-B: 8.30 - 9.00	Surname A-C: 12.00 - 12.30
Surname C-G: 9.00 - 9.30	Surname D-J: 12.30 - 1.00
Surname H-K: 9.30 - 10.00	Surname K-M: 1.00 - 1.30
Surname L-R: 10.00 - 10.30	Surname N-R: 1.30 - 2.00
Surname S-Z: 10.30 - 11.00	Surname S-Z: 2.00 - 2.30
Wednesday 8/9/21	
Year 8	
Surname A-B: 8.30 - 9.00	
Surname C-G: 9.00 - 9.30	
Surname H-K: 9.30 - 10.00	
Surname L-R: 10.00 - 10.30	
Surname S-Z: 10.30 - 11.00	

Full Time Return to School
Monday 6/9/21
Year 7
Tuesday 7/9/21
Year 12/ 13 (10.30)
Year 11
Wednesday 8/9/21
Year 10
Year 9
Thursday 9/9/21
Year 8

Information about on site testing

- The Testing Centre will once again take place in the Sports Hall (The William Sedgwick Building).
- Students should arrive at their allocated time slot. Members of staff will be on hand to greet them and give further guidance on the testing procedure.
- There will be no parking or access for parents on the school site. Access to the school site will be possible via the pedestrian gates on Blossomfield Road (Main Entrance) and Dingle lane.
- Students must make their own way from the school gates to the Testing Centre.
- Students must keep to their allotted time, in order to maintain a manageable flow of students in the Test Centre.
- Students arriving on site for their first Lateral Flow Test, will not be required to wear uniform.
- All students that enter the test centre will be required to wear a mask, so please ensure your child has one. Wearing of a mask whilst in the test centre is compulsory. The testing process is quick and there will be staff to support students who have previously been exempt.
- The Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test device kits for on-site testing has changed from earlier in the year. The new Orient Gene LFDs will replace the current Innova LFDs. The new

Orient Gene LFDs require a nasal swab only. Please note Home testing kits are not changing.

- Once your child has been tested they can return home ready to begin the new academic year. If they record a negative result, they can return to school on their planned, staggered return date (see above).
- All results come straight from the NHS and so, you will receive a text message or an email following the test (normally within 1-hour). In addition, if your child tests positive, we will call you as soon as we know – and follow the Covid-19 guidelines.

We will send out further correspondence at the start of term. In the meantime, enjoy the end of the holidays and we look forward to welcoming all students to school at the start of September.

Best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher