



# Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

Exec. Headteacher: Mr S.Cox BSc Hons MA (Ed) NPQH

Headteacher: Mr S. Careless BSc MSc NPQH

Senior Deputy Headteacher: Mrs C. Montgomery BSc MSc NPQSL

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Inspiring Excellence Together

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to explain how we intend to get all students back in school during the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We are very excited at the prospect of students returning, though to get all 1200 students tested, firstly as they arrive, and then two further times 3-5 days apart is quite a logistical challenge. Therefore, we are going to start with Year 11 students on the Monday, and then add Year 10 on the Tuesday, then Year 7, Year 8 and finally Year 9 on the Friday. Once students are in and have been tested they return to lessons and their normal start times from the next school day. Some students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will have an earlier start time than usual for their first day.

Students whose parents have given consent will be given an arrival time on their allocated day, between 8:30am and 10:30am to come in and be tested using an LFD (Lateral Flow Device) immediately. They will then wait the 30 minutes to get their result. If their result is negative they then can go to their normal timetabled lessons. If they test positive, parents will be contacted immediately and they will need to be collected. Students should all arrive through the Bike Sheds gate on their first day.

We hope that most parents will choose to give consent for the testing, though it is not compulsory. Students, where parents have chosen to reject consent, will be given a start time of after 11:20am on their year group's allocated day. Dining Halls will be providing a full break and lunch service from the day students return.

Due to the logistics of testing the students as well as getting lessons back up and running, the provision for children of keyworkers will cease on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. These students will then return with their year groups as per the timetable in the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March. We will be contacting parents of particularly vulnerable students to offer them a limited provision until their year group returns.

Second and third tests will be conducted in school time over the remainder of the week and run to the Friday of the second week back. Students will not have to wait for their result the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time and will return to lessons immediately when their test has been declared valid. After the initial 3 tests students will be expected to be tested at home by parents/carers, though more information will follow on this.

We sent out a very quick survey to gauge the numbers of parents who intend to give consent yesterday and of the over 400 replies 92% of parents said that they would.

We will not be able to test any student unless a parent or carer has completed the Parental Consent form for Lateral Flow Testing. This is an electronic form and can be accessed via the school website from, the homepage click on 'Covid-19 Testing Consent Form'. At the bottom of that page there is two options to 'CONFIRM CONSENT' or to 'REJECT CONSENT'. The link to the page is

<https://montgomeryschool.co.uk/covid-testing-consent-form>

It is essential that a parent or carer for every student completes one of these two forms, as we will not let a student back in to lessons until one has been completed. They take about 5 minutes to complete. If you have already completed one of these forms in January you do not need to it again unless any of your details have changed.

Here is the planned timetable for the week beginning Monday March 8th,

				Break		Break		Break		Break	
Normal Breaks & lunches	Time	Week 1	Mon		Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri
	30	8:30 - 9:00	11		10		7		8		9
	60	9:00 - 10:00	11		10		7		8		9
7 & 11	20	10:00 - 10:20 (+10)	11		10	11	7	11	8	11&7	9
9	20	10:30 - 10:50 (+10)	11		10		7	10	8		9
8 & 10	20	11:00 - 11:20		11		10		7		8&10	
	55	11:20 - 12:15									
7 & 11	30	12:15 - 12:45									10
9	30	12:45 - 1:15							11		10
8 & 10	30	1:15 - 1:45							11		Lunch
	60	1:45 - 2:45							11		10
	15	2:45 - 3:00									
	15	3:00 - 3:15									
		Year groups in school	11		11		11		11		11
					10		10		10		10
							7		7		7
									8		8
											9
		Vulnerable student groups	VUL7		VUL7		VUL8		VUL9		
			VUL8		VUL8		VUL9				
			VUL9		VUL9						
			VUL10								

### Face masks now recommended in lessons

Directly from the government operational guidance published this week:

*Where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils when outdoors.*



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*In addition, we now also recommend in those schools, that face coverings should be worn in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons.*

*We are taking this additional precautionary measure for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. These measures will be in place until at least Easter. As with all measures, we will keep it under review and update guidance at that point.*

As was previously the case, medical evidence will need to be supplied to the school if needed to allow students not to wear face masks in classrooms and communal areas.

## Year 11 Centre Assessed Grades

Lastly and certainly not least important more guidance was published yesterday on how Centre Assessed grades are going to be used to award grades to our current Year 11s this year. The exams regular OFQUAL has put the information in an easy to read format and is now on our website. Use the link below to go to our letters page and then click 'OFQUAL : How will GCSEs be awarded in summer 2021?'

<https://montgomeryschool.co.uk/Information/letters>

More details are still to be published before the Easter holiday, but the number one main priority is to get students back in class and learning again and we are very much looking forward to seeing them all again soon.

I am sure we will be in touch with more details next week, but at least you know the timetable for return now. Please use the time before your child returns to ensure they have the correct uniform for return, though we will clarify expectations for PE kit in a further letter next week. You can still order uniform from Bispham Clothing either online or by phone.

Please, this weekend if you can, complete one of the two forms on the school website to Confirm consent or Reject consent for the 3 tests when your child returns. This will really help us to be as organised as we can be.

Regards

Mr Careless