

Dear Parents and Carers

**Starting term at Wootton Upper School September 2021.**

I am writing to update you regarding the start of term. Mr Gleeson, Executive Principal, wrote to you at the end of term and indicated that the arrangement for the start of term had not been finalised and would be shared this week, ensuring we were able to respond to the current national and local picture. These changes apply to all year groups, including Year 9. Please find clarification below.

Schools are asked to provide pupils with two lateral flow tests onsite, and these should be offered three to five days apart. In order to keep our school community safe, we are keen that as many pupils as possible take up this opportunity.

Please find a link below to book a lateral flow test on site on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and also provide consent by clicking the link below to complete the form. Your child should not come in for testing, or into school if they have COVID symptoms.

**Booking system, click here:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lateral-flow-device-test-1-tickets-167705205785>

**Consent form, click here:** <https://forms.office.com/r/LYpvCuQgMu>

	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Wednesday 1st September <b>WEEK 2</b>	Staff training day		
Thursday 2nd September	<i>Lateral flow testing onsite</i> Finger printing. Chance to tour the school Some slots to meet form tutors Return home	<i>Lateral flow testing onsite</i> and then return home.	
Friday 3rd September	In school. With tutors until break time Normal lessons 3,4,5		
Sunday 5th September	<i>Lateral flow testing onsite in the morning</i>		
Monday 6th September <b>WEEK 1</b>	Normal lessons.		

**Specific plans for year 9:**

You may choose to book your Lateral Flow Test so that you and your child can meet their form tutor and/or have a tour of the school.

9.30am – 10.00am Meet the following tutors: 9DHA 9JMA 9LHL 9NMA 9NPA

10am Tours available

10.00 – 10.30am Meet the following tutors: 9EBO 9GEL 9GHU 9BWH 9KHI 9RPR

1.30 – 2.00pm Meet the following tutors: 9DHA 9JMA 9LHL 9NMA 9NPA

2pm Tours available

2.30 – 3.00pm Meet the following tutors: 9EBO 9GEL 9GHU 9BWH 9KHI 9RPR

Below is an explanation of our plans for all year groups as well as answers to **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**:

### **Wednesday 1 September**

This is a training day for all staff, and no pupils will be expected on site.

### **Thursday 2 September**

*We will run Lateral Flow Tests for all Year 9,10 and 11 pupils on site.* There will be no lessons and pupils do not need to wear school uniform. All pupils can collect their timetable. Once processed your child should return home.

We have requested our caterers to prepare a packed lunch meal which every child entitled to a Free School Meal will receive. These will be available from our School Reception at the front of the site.

For Year 9 pupils we are offering an opportunity to join a tour of the school after they have completed their lateral flow test, and parents and carers are welcome to join this with their child. Form tutors will be available at times through the day, and we hope that many pupils are able to book a lateral flow test at a time that allows them [and you their parents] to meet their tutor if they wish to do so.

We will also complete biometric finger printing following the lateral flow test, which allows them to access food and drink in our canteen as well as use our printers.

### **Friday 3 September – first full day of school for all pupils.**

All pupils should arrive at school each day by 8.20am and certainly no later than 8.30am so that they are ready for the start of lessons. All pupils should wear full school uniform and should bring a full set of equipment including pens, pencils, ruler, calculator in a sturdy school bag. No pupils will need PE kit on this day. Pupils are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to keep hydrated through the day. Pupils should enter the school through the year specific gate: Year 9 should use gate one to the far left as you approach the school, Year 10 should use gate two to the left of reception and Year 11 should use gate three to the right of reception. Year 9 will be guided to the tennis courts where they will be met by their form tutor.

All pupils will begin the day with their form tutors. After break they will attend their normal lessons. **The school day has returned to the normal time of finishing at 3.00pm.**

### **Sunday 5 September**

*Lateral Flow Testing in the morning on site.* The booking link will be sent to you on Thursday 2nd September after we have processed the first set of testing.

### **Monday 6 September**

All pupils should arrive at school by 8.20am and certainly no later than 8.30am for a prompt start to lessons.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Does my child have to have a lateral flow test?**

We would prefer that all pupils do, but your child can still return to school if they do not have one.

#### **What if my child can't attend testing on Thursday or Sunday?**

Please book a slot if you can, to support us deliver tests for the whole school community. We will offer catch up tests for those who have not been able to attend.

#### **I have children at Wootton Upper School and Kimberley College.**

Of course, you may book your children in for tests on the same site. Do be mindful that Year 9 may want to visit the Wootton Upper School site.

**What happens if my child tests positive in their lateral flow test?**

We will contact you to let you know. Your child should isolate and book a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive your child should continue to isolate. If it is taken within two days of the lateral flow test, and is negative, your child no longer needs to isolate. If your child is isolating and does not feel unwell, work will be available to them via Teams.

**A member of my family is vulnerable, should my child return to school?**

Yes, all pupils should return to school, unless they have an exemption letter from a medical consultant. It is likely that this exemption applies to a very small number of pupils nationally.

**What health and safety measures will be in place at school in September?**

We will still have touch point cleaning and will be asking pupils and staff to sanitise regularly. We will also ensure classrooms are well ventilated. Year groups will no longer function in bubbles and so pupils will not have staggered breaks. In addition, face masks are no longer required in communal areas or classrooms, but of course pupils and staff may continue to choose to wear one. Face masks continue to be advised for travel on buses.

Schools may be asked to return to previous health and safety measures if there is a local outbreak of COVID 19 in the future.

**Expectations for all pupils at Wootton Upper School.**

Your child must wear their school lanyard every day, these will be redistributed on Friday 3rd September. They should also have their timetable and equipment every day. Healthy food and drink help with learning, so a bottle of water is important, but your child should not bring to school sugary or energy drinks, or large bags of crisps or sweets.

Please do remember to check our uniform list. Many of our pupils wear their uniform with pride. All pupils should be wearing a school blazer, these are not optional. Key items we do not allow are trainers, leggings and hoodies.

I hope you and your family have had an enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing all our pupils return to school.

Kind regards



Mrs C McMorn  
Head of School