



Beamont Collegiate
Academy

Long Lane, Warrington, WA2 8PX

Tel: 01925 579500

E-Mail: mail@bca.warrington.ac.uk

Website: www.bca.warrington.ac.uk

Principal: Mr G Harris BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

Ref GHA/CHE/WS/009

26 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience whilst we have been finalising our plans to safely welcome back students following the latest national lockdown. I'm sure you can appreciate there have been several complexities to navigate as we prepare to offer Covid-19 tests to such large numbers of young people whilst also trying to return them to the classroom to continue with their education.

Asymptomatic Covid-19 Testing

The government is requiring schools to offer students three lateral flow tests (LFTs) to students over a two-week period. Each test will be offered 3-5 days apart. You should have already received a link via text and email that asks you to give consent for your child to be tested. **We will not test any children without written consent from parents/carers. LFTs are a straightforward test that involves placing a swab in the back of the throat and inserting into a nostril. These are self-administered by the students but we will have fully trained staff working with and guiding the students through the testing process.**

On the day that your child is tested they will return home following their test. You will then receive an email informing you if they have tested positive or negative. Any positive cases will also be followed up with a telephone call from a member of the school's senior team. They should return to school on the day and time that is specific to their year group as outlined in the table below.

Any students that returns a positive test result will be advised to isolate in line with the government's guidance. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms>

Parents and carers that have consented to having their child tested will receive a separate letter to this providing them with the date and time for their child to attend the school site to get their first test. Students for whom we have consent will take their second and third tests between the dates of 11th and 17 March.

Face Masks

When your child returns to school it will be necessary for them to wear a face mask in lessons in addition to communal areas such as corridors and dining spaces. We are aware of a small number of students who are medically exempt. These students will be provided with a lanyard that identifies them as being mask exempt so that they are not repeatedly reminded by staff to put a mask on. **Please ensure you provide your child with a face mask each day.**

Measures to Reduce the Spread of Covid-19.

When students return to school they will continue to be taught in "bubbles" that allow us to track and trace specific individuals we identify as a close contact. Entrances into the school building will be equipped with hand sanitisers for all to use on entry. It is worth reminding parents that we do not require students to socially distance from other members of their "bubble".



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | SERVE | CHALLENGE | EMPOWER
THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL, BROOMFIELDS ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 3AE • COMPANY #: 10689247 • VAT #: 296154966



Attendance

Now that circumstances have changed it is vital that children return to school so that we can minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, well-being and wider development. Any further absences away from the classroom will risk pupils falling further behind. There is a strong link between good school attendance and achievement. **School attendance will therefore be mandatory once again from 8 March 2021.** This means that the usual rules will apply, including:

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are compulsory school age*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, resulting in prosecution for poor school attendance*

We recognise that some parents and pupils may feel anxious and worried about their return therefore we will work closely with families to support you with their return to school. If you have any worries or concerns or your child feels anxious about returning to school please contact the school on receipt of this letter or alternatively below on:

tellus@bca.warrington.ac.uk and we shall respond to you directly in support.

When will my child return to school building to start lessons? (whether they have been tested or not)

Year Group	Date	Time
Yr11	Monday 8 March	8:30am
Yr10	Monday 8 March	8:35am
Yr9	Tuesday 9 March	8:30am
Yr8	Wednesday 10 March	8:30am
Yr7	Thursday 11 March	8:30am

From Friday 12 March all students will be back in school full time. (unless they test positive for Covid-19)

Until they return to lessons in the school building students should continue to attend and complete lessons on Google Classroom.

Uniform and PE Kit

Students should return to school in full uniform. If you need reminding of what is permitted in relation to our standards on uniform please visit this page of our website: [Uniform | Beamont Collegiate Academy \(warrington.ac.uk\)](http://www.bca.warrington.ac.uk/uniform)

As before Christmas, on days when students have PE scheduled on their timetable they should wear their PE kit with the blazer on top.

Children of Critical Workers

Throughout the lockdown the children of critical workers and some additional students have continued to attend school. These children should continue to attend as agreed. They must now attend in full uniform. These students have been involved in our routine testing throughout this half-term and this will continue.

I am very much looking forward to having the students back in the school building. We have a number of challenges ahead that we will overcome to make sure that our students are not disadvantaged any further by the impact of Covid-19. Over the coming weeks I will be writing to you again to update on



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | SERVE | CHALLENGE | EMPOWER
THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL, BROOMFIELDS ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 3AE • COMPANY#: 10689247 • VAT#: 296154966



how we will continue to provide a high quality education and respond to the impact of the lockdown on the students so that they get back on track quickly.

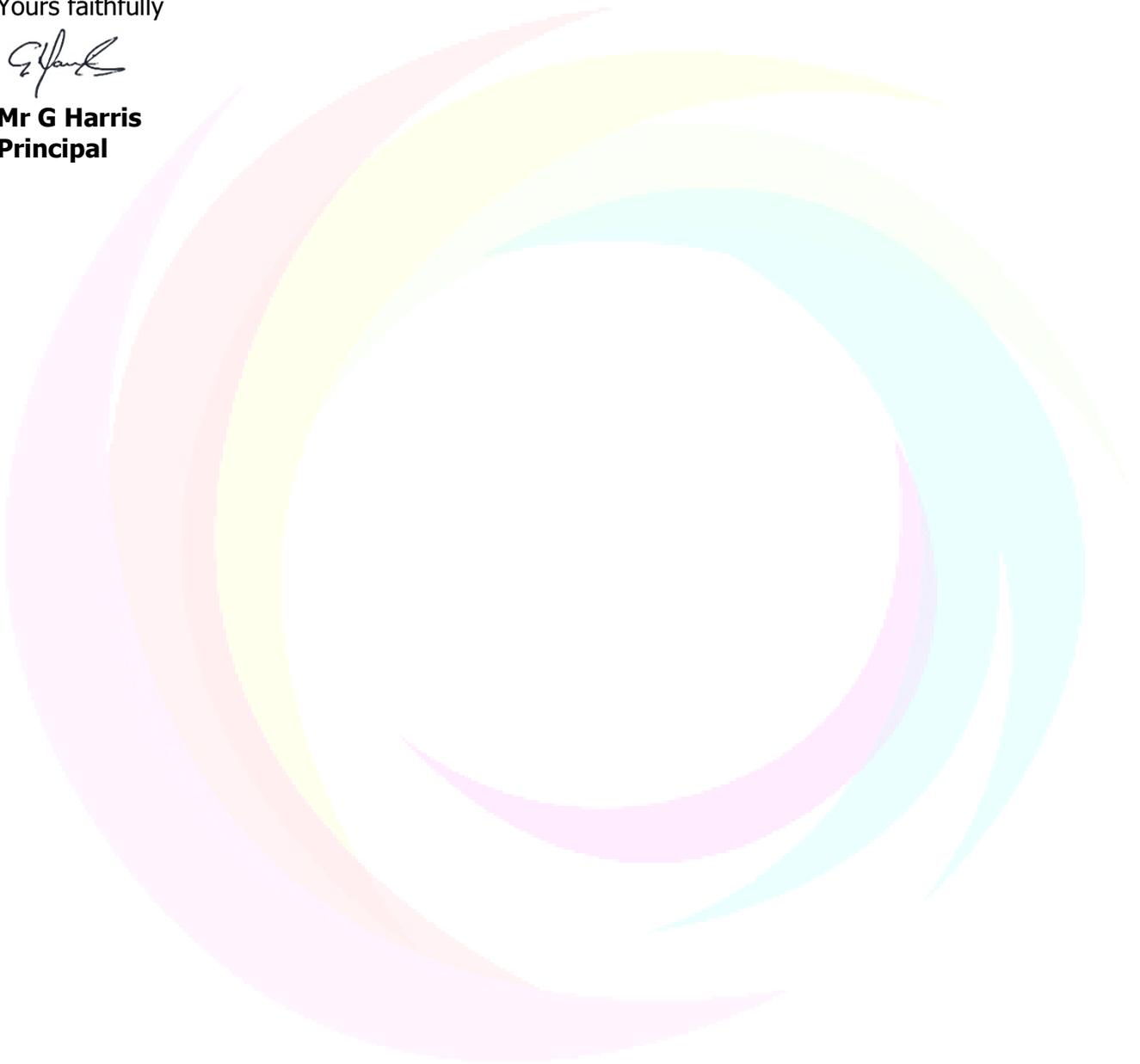
I understand that the return date will be later than some parents however I hope you can understand the need for us to prioritise a safe return to school for all our students and staff meaning that not all students have been able to return on Monday 8 March.

I'll look forward to working closely with you over the coming weeks and months.

Yours faithfully



Mr G Harris
Principal



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | SERVE | CHALLENGE | EMPOWER

THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL, BROOMFIELDS ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 3AE • COMPANY#: 10689247 • VAT#: 296154966

