



St Peter's Church of England Aided School

Quarry Lane, Exeter, EX2 5AP www.spexe.org (01392) 204 764 school@spexe.org

23rd February 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Important response required please by Midday Friday 26th February

Update following the Prime Ministers announcement on Monday 22nd February 2021

I am writing to you with early information regarding our approaches to a full reopening of our school. I will share more detailed information in the following days as we have time to better understand and plan for the latest DfE guidance changes.

In summary there are three key changes from our provision since September 2020 that will be in place from Monday 8th March.

1. Testing all students before they enter a classroom
2. Wearing of face masks in classrooms
3. Moving towards home testing for students and staff in the coming weeks

All other key safety approaches will continue to be prioritised.

Safety is a Key Priority

In order to make our community as safe as is reasonably possible we are required to ensure that all students have had a negative Covid test prior to them entering a classroom.

As a result, even if you have already provided your consent form for the testing we ask you to complete the following link by midday Friday 26th February please.

By doing this you are helping not just our school community but the wider community and our families too.

[Click here for Consent Form](#)

With significantly more students due to return onsite our Covid testing team will be required to process many more hundreds of tests in order to support the safety of our community.

As you can imagine this will be a huge task, requiring further redeployment of our own staff and an increase to external staff hours who have been trained and worked with us since January on the Covid testing.

'Life to the full for everyone.'





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Phased return from Monday 8th March

In order to help our community be safe and carry out the mass testing it is looking very likely that we will need to invite Year Groups in the Government's priority order during the week beginning Monday 8th March e.g. Year 11 and Year 10 students along with Critical Worker and Vulnerable students will be invited in at the start of the week with other year groups towards the end of the week.

In order to carry out the testing safely students will need to arrive on-site in order to be tested at a given time and leave the site by a given time. We will be in touch with more details of how this will work in practice.

This does mean that the majority of students for the majority of week beginning 8th March will need to continue with remote learning from home until the day after they have received a negative test result.

We understand that this may cause some inconvenience but trust that you will appreciate any possible inconvenience is nothing compared to all of our responsibilities to keep our community as safe as is reasonably possible.

Home Testing

Home testing is being introduced for secondary aged pupils (11+) and college students. It is important that pupils and students are initially supervised whilst swabbing to make sure they are doing it correctly. This is why testing will initially take place on-site, at an asymptomatic test site (ATS).

Once students have gained confidence in school with administering these we trust the government will then supply us with home testing kits for students.

I will endeavour to share more detailed information with you as swiftly as possible. There is a lot to plan for and staff are working hard and thoughtfully.

Yours faithfully

Phil Randall
Headteacher