



Kingswinford Academy

A part of the Windsor Academy Trust

Headteacher: Mr T Macdonald, BA Hons, MA

Water Street
Kingswinford
West Midlands
DY6 7AD

Tel: 01384 296596

Email:
info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Website:
www.kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Twitter: @kfordacademy

Company registration no: 07523436
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KFA Covid Response

21/07/2021

Arrangements for Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing and return to school.

Dear parent or carer

I am writing to confirm our updated arrangements, dates and times for Asymptomatic Testing and return to Kingswinford Academy in September. We have arranged for **our Year 8** students to have their test and return to school on the following dates:

1st Asymptomatic COVID-19 Test Date: Tuesday 7th September

Year 8 return to Full Time education: Wednesday 8th September

Please read through the information below carefully so that you are aware of the full arrangements for your child on those dates.

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 Asymptomatic Testing in Secondary Schools

Asymptomatic Testing (testing for those without coronavirus symptoms) is now a key component in the fight against coronavirus, using new, quicker COVID 19 tests known as 'lateral flow devices'. This letter is to help provide you with more information about the mass testing programme about to begin in our school.

From the 3rd September, we will again be running our onsite mass testing programme which will allow the school to test all those students who previously consented two times over the course of 5 days, with a 3-5 day gap between each test. Following these initial onsite tests, students will be provided with further home testing kits to continue testing twice each week at home. The onsite tests will support the safe return to school of all students, but will also give students a timely reminder on how to administer the test themselves in preparation for home testing.

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school settings through asymptomatic transmission and help to keep our community safe.

I am therefore encouraging all students to be tested as part of this programme.



Phased return and initial test

In order to meet the requirements of the latest Government guidance, students will be returning to school in Year groups on different days and times through Friday 3rd September and the week beginning 6th September. This will give us an opportunity to ensure students have been tested once before their year group is able to return. On their first test day, students should arrive at school at their allocated Form group time. They will be guided to the Sports Hall where they will register their details, before heading to one of our testing booths. Members of staff will be on hand to support students in taking this test.

To maintain social distancing for **the first test** and to prevent the possible spread of Coronavirus on our site, the following arrangements have been made:

- Students must enter school alone. Parents who wish to bring their children to the school should remain outside of the school gates. A member of staff will be on hand to greet them on arrival.
- Students will enter the testing site through the right side gates and will leave school through the right side gates (Sports Hall Entrance).
- Following their test, Students must leave the site immediately and return home. There will be no place for students to remain on site after they have been tested.
- Masks must be worn (except where students are exempt).

From registration to test, the process should take approximately 30 minutes. In the event of your child testing positive, a member of staff will call you to discuss the next steps, however we would fully expect NHS Track and Trace to also be in touch as we will be logging all results through the NHS Track and Trace system.

How the tests work

The tests are self administered, however the test will be supervised by trained adults. The lateral flow device tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. The school will inform the parent of a positive test result. They will also receive a text and/or email notification of a positive or negative result from the online NHS system. Tests are free of charge and I enclose a leaflet with further information.

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If anyone develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Year 8 Schedule for testing and return to school

Tuesday 7th September 2021 - testing only - please only send your child into school on this day if you have consented for them to take part in the testing programme. Students will not be required to wear uniform on this day.

Form Group arrival times on Tuesday 7th September:

8.1	Mr M Bills	13.15
8.2	Mrs J Carriere	13.30
8.3	Miss A Ganesan	13.45
8.4	Miss R Blackford	14.00
8.5	Mr K Price	14.15
8.6	Miss H Horton	14.30
8.7	Miss G Darlington	14.45
8.8	Miss N Abel	15.00

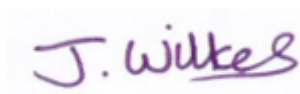
Wednesday 8th September- Year 8 return to school (full school uniform applies).

All Year 8 students will return to school full time from Wednesday 8th September (8.45am start finishing at 3pm).

Students who have testing consent will then be tested again on the 10th September whilst attending school. After all onsite testing is completed, the school will be providing home testing kits for all students to use twice weekly under parental supervision at home. This will be reviewed at the end of September.

We strongly believe that this testing programme will be an invaluable tool to support the safe return of all students to education settings and encourage as many students as possible to participate.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Wilkes
Assistant Headteacher