



To Aspire, Endeavour and Thrive Together

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all had a relaxing and restful summer and have been able to take advantage of the additional freedoms under the most recent government guidance.

Detailed below is a reminder of the arrangements for the start of term, and of the latest COVID-19 guidelines and processes.

Start of the new year

I am genuinely optimistic that we can have a strong and consistent start to the school year for every student. Key to this is the need to offer COVID-19 testing to every student before they return to the classroom. The purpose is to screen students as they return and is highly dependent on uptake. I would ask every family to provide consent for testing to support the safest return for everyone.

We have been given the option to phase the return to school for all students at the start of term. The practicalities of testing mean that we will need to utilise this option, but I have limited the time we need to the absolute minimum.

Staggered return and asymptomatic testing

Thank you for your continued engagement in the COVID-19 testing programme. We need to offer a test to each student twice before they can return to face to face teaching in September. There will then be a second follow up test within 3-5 days. In order to do this, we will stagger the students' return to school in September. Please see the arrangements below:

Yr	3/9	Mon 6/9	Tue 7/9	Wed 8/9	Thu 9/9	Friday 10/9
7	Test	Induction	Induction + lessons	Induction + lessons + 2 nd test	Lessons	Lessons
8			Test	Induction + lessons	Induction + lessons	Lessons +2 nd test
9			Test	Induction + lessons	Induction + lessons	Lessons +2 nd test
10		Test	Induction + lessons	Induction + lessons	Lessons +2 nd test	Lessons
11		Test	Induction + lessons	Induction + lessons	Lessons +2 nd test	Lessons
12	Test	Induction full day	Induction + lessons	lessons from period 2 + 2 nd test	Lessons	Lessons
13	Test	Induction full day	Lessons from period 2	Induction and 2 nd test	Lessons	Lessons

Parents have now been emailed with a time for their child's first test. Testing will take place in the sports hall. For the first test only, students do not need to wear school uniform and will attend for the test only. The second test will take place while the students are in school.

On all other days, students should arrive by 8.40am. They will line up in their allocated area (see below) by 8.45am.

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As we have already carried out an asymptomatic testing programme with Year 8-11 students, you have already indicated whether or not you consent to your child being tested in school. If you are the parent of a new Y7 student or need to change your details, you can do so by completing the form here:

<https://www.glossopdale.school/covidconsent/>

Please review the information on asymptomatic testing, as well as the Terms of Consent and privacy notice on our website here:

<https://www.glossopdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/Student-Covid-19-Testing-programme/>

If your child tests positive, they will not be able to attend school and you will need to follow public health advice to isolate and book a PCR test, continuing to isolate if the result is positive. Please see our Covid arrangements and measures towards the end of this letter for further information.

Work will be uploaded to Google Classroom for any students who cannot attend school in person.

Timing of the school day:

Please see below a reminder of the school day. We are maintaining the staggered breaks and lunches in order to ensure that recreational time is calm and well-managed, and that all students have plenty of time to eat and relax.

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School Day September 2021

Tutor (Time)	P1 (60 min lesson) 9.15-10.15	P2 (75 min in total) 60 min lesson(L) 15 min break (B) 10.15-11.30	P3 (60 min lesson) 11.30-12.30	P4 (90 min in total) 60 min lesson (L) 30 min lunch) 12.30-2.00	P5 (60 min lesson) 2.00-3.00
All students in Y7-Y11 need to be lined up outside for 8.40am					

Y7	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	L- 30 mins	B 10.45-11.00	L- 30 mins	L- 60 mins	L-30 mins	Lunch 1.00pm-1.30pm	L-30 mins	L-60 mins
Y8	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	L- 45 mins	B 11.00-11.15	L-15 mins	L- 60 mins	L-60 mins	Lunch 1.30pm-2.00pm	L-60 mins	L-60 mins
Y9	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	L- 15 mins	B 10.30-10.45	L- 45 mins	L- 60 mins	Lunch 12.30pm-1.00pm	L-60 mins	L-60 mins	L-60 mins
Y10	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	L- 60 mins	B 11.15-11.30	L- 60 mins	L- 60 mins	L-60 mins	Lunch 1.30pm-2.00pm	L-60 mins	L-60 mins
Y11	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	B 10.15-10.30	L- 60 mins	L- 60 mins	L- 60 mins	Lunch 12.30pm-1.00pm	L-60 mins	L-60 mins	L-60 mins
P16	8.45-9.15	L-60 mins	L- 60 mins	B 11.15-11.30	L- 60 mins	L- 60 mins	L-60 mins	Lunch 1.30pm-2.00pm	L-60 mins	L-60 mins

Uniform:

A reminder that, from September, each year group will have a different coloured tie.

- Year 7 **New burnt orange with a blue stripe**
- Year 8 Gold with blue stripe
- Year 9 Blue with a gold stripe
- Year 10 **New blue with blue and gold stripe**
- Year 11 Black with a gold stripe

All ties cost £3.50 and can be bought from the school reception. If there are any parents of students who were not expecting to purchase a new tie this year, please speak to your child's Year Manager and we will provide support where necessary.

We know that the majority of parents will purchase new uniform for their children over the summer holidays. Please make sure that this adheres to our uniform policy, details can be found here:

https://www.glossopdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/-About_Us/School-Uniform/

In particular, we remind you that students are not permitted to wear trainers and skirts must be knee length with a pleat. Please also ensure that haircuts and colour are natural and that your child does not return to school with nail varnish, acrylic nails or false eyelashes.

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Students must bring all of their equipment on their first day: black pen, red pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator. Please ensure that this is organised in a pencil case. They will be provided with a planner in their induction session.

Students should also bring their PE kit with them on their first day back to school.

COVID-19 risk assessment and safety measures

We will continue to follow government guidance and respond to any changes that may be introduced. At the time of writing, we are pleased to say that students will not be returning to year group bubbles and that all specialist classrooms will continue to be used to allow all year groups access to a broad and rich curriculum.

We will return to holding year group assemblies and will no longer have a staggered start and end to the school day. Educational visits can resume and, where possible, we will hold events such as Open Evening and Parents' Information Evenings in school. As we know that DfE guidance is subject to change in response to local and national infection rates, we will communicate details of each event nearer the time. It is possible that we will have to hold some events remotely.

However, we also know that the easing of restrictions at the end of the summer term and throughout the holidays, along with the additional mixing that will have taken place over the summer break, will have led to a rise in infections. Even though we will not be operating bubbles and wearing face masks in schools, staff and students need to continue to be mindful of good hygiene and safety measures both in school and at home to keep everyone in our community safe.

The control measures in schools are as follows:

- 1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone**
 - Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is regular practice. Students should clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser
 - The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important
- 2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes**
 - We have put in place and will maintain a schedule to include regular cleaning of areas and equipment, with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces
- 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**
 - We have a mechanical ventilation system in all classrooms and can therefore keep classrooms ventilated at the same time as providing a comfortable learning environment
 - CO2 monitors are being provided to all schools in September
- 4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19**
 - Students should not come into school if they have COVID-19 symptoms, have had a positive test result or they are required to quarantine following return from another country
 - If any student or member of staff develops COVID-19 symptoms in school, they will be sent home and they will be instructed to following public health advice
 - If your child develops symptoms in school, they should avoid using public transport and, where possible, be collected by a member of their family or household
 - The household (including any siblings) should follow the PHE [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).
 - Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). They will also need to [get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19](#).

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Tracing close contacts

Schools no longer identify close contacts of positive cases, this will be carried out by NHS Test and Trace.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

A reminder that school attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. We will follow up all absences and wish to respectfully remind all parents/carers that they must leave a detailed message on the school's absence line before 8:30am if their child is unable to attend school, specifying the reason for the absence. All clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend (written confirmation from the child or young person's clinician is required in the event of such cases).

Thank you for taking the time to review the critical information in this letter; please can you discuss all the details with your children to ensure that they are confident of the arrangements and measures in place for their return to school.

If you have any questions, contact details for pastoral staff are here:
<https://www.glossopdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/Contact-Us/>

If you have any other queries, please email info@glossopdale.school. We look forward to welcoming all students back next week.

Best wishes,

Mrs McGloin

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