



RUTLISH SCHOOL

Watery Lane, Merton, SW20 9AD

Phone: 020 8542 1212

Fax: 020 8544 0580

Student Absence: 020 8540 3134

E-mail: administration@rutlish.merton.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.rutlish.merton.sch.uk>

Headteacher: Ms L. Howarth

24th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday, I am delighted that we now have a date to start the phased return of students into school. I can confirm that students will start to return to school from Monday 8th March.

We have been informed that students can return once they have received a negative Lateral Flow Test result. Please could I ask you to complete the consent form for your child to take part in the testing: [Lateral Flow Test Consent Form](#). Government guidance has made it clear that schools cannot start testing until 8th March. Testing will take place at school. Our test centre has been running since January for staff and the students who have been in school and is managed by school staff who have been specially trained.

You may want to read the additional information from the government [Rapid asymptomatic testing in specialist settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

As I am sure you can imagine, it will take a few days to test all our students and, therefore, we will have a phased return to school; students will be back in face to face education by Thursday 11th March. Once we have finalised these details, we will hopefully be able to update you early next week with the date and time of your child's return to school.

After all the students have returned to school we then need to administer a further two tests which will be carried out whilst students are at school. Once three tests have been completed at school, students will be supplied with home testing kits to self swab and test themselves twice a week. Again, we will update you with how this will be managed when we have been provided with more information from the Government.

We will also ensure that as many safety measures are in place that are practically possible, please see our updated risk assessment on the school website [Rutlish School - Covid19](#). The one significant difference is that all students and staff will now need to **wear a face covering in the classroom, as well as in corridors, communal areas and in any queue**. For this reason, please could you make sure your child brings a spare face covering with them in case the first one gets wet or dirty. Students will be expected to return to school in full school uniform (not PE kit) including shoes.

Please be reassured we are here to support your child's return to school. We are confident that they will flourish when they are back in school and, as always, we will try to make school as normal as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ms L. Howarth
Headteacher

