



OLD BUCKENHAM  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Be the best we can be*

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent and Carers

Following my earlier communication, I thought it is important to update you with the most up to date arrangements regarding testing and school opening. As from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> the school will open for students who are deemed to be vulnerable and those students whose parents are key workers. Norfolk County Council transport will be available, however, Thetford buses will not be. All other students need to follow their normal timetable as work will be set via Go for Schools, teachers will be available during lesson time for feedback via email. We have distributed laptops and we have a number available for collection if your son/daughter requires one. Paper resources are available from the main office for those families with limited or no internet connection. If you have any concerns regarding on line learning or other concerns please contact the following:

Year 7 - Mr Alderson [salderson@obhs.co.uk](mailto:salderson@obhs.co.uk)

Year 8/9 - Mr Cowan [scowan@obhs.co.uk](mailto:scowan@obhs.co.uk)

Year 10/11 - Mr Taylor [etaylor1@obhs.co.uk](mailto:etaylor1@obhs.co.uk)

Paper based resources - Mrs Woods [jwoods@obhs.co.uk](mailto:jwoods@obhs.co.uk)

Laptop requests - Mrs Gatward [lgatward@obhs.co.uk](mailto:lgatward@obhs.co.uk)

Special educational needs - Ms Evans [jevans@obhs.co.uk](mailto:jevans@obhs.co.uk)

Year 7-9 pastoral concerns - Ms Picksley [tpicksley@obhs.co.uk](mailto:tpicksley@obhs.co.uk)

Year 10-11 pastoral concerns - Mrs Wabe [cwabe@obhs.co.uk](mailto:cwabe@obhs.co.uk)

#### Covid 19 Testing

As you will be aware secondary schools are expected to test all students twice during the beginning of term. Key worker and vulnerable students will be tested on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January as they arrive in school. Year 11 students are expected to be in school from 11<sup>th</sup> January and will follow their normal timetable after undergoing a Lateral Flow test. Norfolk County Council transport will run and a single Thetford bus will run picking up students from Thetford and Great Hockham. We are setting up a testing facility within school and are following the guidelines set out by the Department of Education and NHS. As Year 11 arrive they will be guided to a waiting area and then, in small batches undergo a self-administered test. The results take around 20-30 minutes and students will need to wait in a designated area pending the result.

If a student tests positive, you will be contacted immediately and asked to collect your son/daughter from school. It is very important that we have up to date contact arrangements and that someone is available to come to school if required. If the test is negative, students will go directly to lessons. This process will hopefully be repeated within 5 days of the first test. Your consent is required for the school to undertake the test and if consent is not given, your son/daughter will still be allowed



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to attend lessons, although I strongly recommend that all students are tested to ensure the safety of staff and students at school.

It is not clear when all students will return to school, however, when they do, all will follow the procedure detailed above, more details will follow regarding the return of Year 7-10 students. There is a consent form attached and it would be very helpful if this could be returned as soon as possible, an electronic copy is acceptable.

In addition, we now have the facility to undertake daily tests for those students living in a household with a member who is self-isolating due to displaying symptoms of covid 19. If your son/daughter is in this category can you contact Mrs Picksley or Mrs Wabe to arrange a suitable time for testing after the return date of the relevant year group.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Fell  
Headteacher

