***‘Individual Growth, Individual People’***

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Thursday 25th February 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

I’m sure you will have seen on the news that the government have announced the full re-opening of schools from week commencing Monday 8th March 2021. It has been decided that all pupils who are currently working at home will return to school on **Tuesday 9th March 2021**. Those who have a current shielding letter or required to self-isolate need to remain at home. **Home learning will only be provided for those children who fall into these categories from this date.**

The school will contact Transport to inform them of this date.

There has also been a decision made by the government after much campaigning by special schools, to offer school staff and secondary aged pupils the Home Testing kits which is great news as you will appreciate how difficult it has been having to carry out testing on the school site twice a week. This makes great sense as this now means staff and eligible students can carry out a test twice a week, before coming into school. The new tests will start to be delivered early next week in preparation for the full re-opening the following week.

If your child/young person is of **secondary age** and you would like to be provided with home testing kits then please complete the reply slip below and return to school by **Wednesday 3rd March**, in order for us to send them home to you. You do not need to complete a consent form as you will be responsible for supporting your child to carry out the test and this in itself is your consent. The school is responsible for keeping a record of the lot numbers of tests and to maintain a test kit log. This means that if you are provided with home testing kits it is your responsibility to register the test with NHS Test and Trace (Instructions are provided with the kits**)**

If the test is positive then your child and the rest of the household should self-isolate immediately and arrange for a PDR test to confirm the result either by phoning 119 or online. **Do not send your child to school following a positive test. Please inform school as soon as possible to allow us to put self-isolation procedures in place for any close contacts.** Obviously, this does not replace the need to keep your child off school and arrange for a test if they are showing any of the symptoms for COVID -19

The home testing is a voluntary process and if you do not want your child to take the tests that is your decision and this will not affect your child’s attendance at school.

Yours sincerely,



Margot Tyers

Head Teacher

**Please complete the reply slip below and return to school by Wednesday 3rd March if you would like testing kits sent home**.

Name of student……………………………

I would like to receive home testing kits and I agree to support my child to carry out a home test twice a week and to register each test with NHS Test & Trace. If the test is positive I agree to arrange for a further PCR test to confirm the result and to self- isolate immediately.

Signed…………………………………… Date……………………………