



Augustine Way, Iffley Turn, Oxford, OX4 4DU
01865 747606 • Head Teacher: Mr Tom Procter-Legg • office@iffleyacademy.co.uk

2nd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, I wrote to you last week about the Government's plan for all pupils returning to [schools](#) and [colleges](#) as part of the [roadmap for leaving lockdown](#). We are excited to have more students returning to face-to-face learning and **I can confirm that Iffley Academy will be open to your child from 8th March 2021**. We do of course recognise that there will be continued challenges presented by the pandemic across the academic year. However, where possible, we will remain open.

Below is some further information about the wider opening of our academy:

Will my child return to their normal class group?

As of 8th March, children will be returning to their normal class groups in their normal classrooms. Your class teacher will be in touch with you this week to confirm any staffing changes and to talk through the return to school if you have any specific questions.

How will my child get to and from school?

For students travelling by taxi, this will happen as per normal arrangements. We have already been in touch with OCC and transport arrangements are in place for 8th March. If however you choose to drop your child off at school please can I remind you that social distancing at the school gates is a really important part of keeping our school safe.

Will there be bubbles in school?

We have spent extensive time risk assessing many aspects of the school day including the fact that we will use our successful format of four different zones. This has been recognised by Public Health England as best practice. Where possible students will stay within their classrooms or with their zones which are made up from Galleries. There are a number of staff working across zones where it is unavoidable. However these staff will be taking extra care to socially distance and ensure meticulous handwashing is in place.

Are you still serving school dinners?

Yes – Darren and the Thomas Franks team have done an amazing job of keeping us fed during lockdown and will continue making hot lunches which will continue to be served in classrooms. Students are also welcome to bring in packed lunches should they wish, however we still won't be running a tuck shop at breaktime.

Will you be running assemblies?

For the time being we won't be holding large gatherings such as assemblies. We will of course be continuing with our very successful online format for assemblies, with students receiving at least two assemblies per week.



Augustine Way, Iffley Turn, Oxford, OX4 4DU
01865 747606 • Head Teacher: Mr Tom Procter-Legg • office@iffleyacademy.co.uk

Will students still be able to do PE?

PE will continue as normal in large inside spaces, in small groups in our school gym and outside when possible. From now until Easter we plan for children to do PE in their school uniform - this will minimise the need for shared spaces and changing.

Do you have testing in place at school?

I am really pleased to say that we now have staff testing in place and we will be offering Iffley staff lateral flow tests twice a week. This is designed to identify asymptomatic coronavirus cases which is really important as one third of people who have COVID-19 do not develop symptoms. I'm sure you will also be pleased to know that staff are also now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine and I'm aware that many members of staff have had their vaccinations.

We do anticipate testing for students to come in next and the information we have been provided with suggests that this will be home testing kits which may be available from the 15th March - however we are still waiting final confirmation of this. I will get in touch with you again when I have received more details about student testing.

What should I do if someone in my house has COVID-19 symptoms?

Anyone with COVID-19 [symptoms](#) or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. This is because you could pass the infection on to others, even if you don't have symptoms.

It's really important that you refer to the guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, stay at home and [arrange to have a test](#).

There are several other symptoms linked with COVID-19. These other symptoms may have another cause and are not on their own a reason to have a COVID-19 test. If you are concerned about your symptoms, seek medical advice.

Please feel free to get in touch if you need any further information, but for now we very much look forward to welcoming students back on the 8th March.

Many thanks

Tom Procter-Legg
Head Teacher