



# MOORSIDE HIGH

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As a school we are overjoyed following the government announcement regarding the re-open to all pupils from 8th March. We cannot wait to see everyone back in school and in face-to-face lessons. However, the return is not as straightforward as we would like and it unfortunately is not as simple as everyone being back in school as normal on Monday 8th. The government has announced that we need to arrange testing for all students before they go into any lessons and for a school of our size, this will probably require some form of staggered start, with the continuation of online lessons during this time. The Department for Education has published detailed guidance on how schools are to manage the requirement for pupils and staff to be tested and we are expecting more information over the next few days. We hope you will understand that we need a time to draw up detailed plans and we will communicate these on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March.

In the meantime, we cannot forget that next week marks 'World Book Day'. Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day, this is a day to celebrate the joy and value of literacy, books and reading, especially for children. To mark this occasion, we will be having an off-screen literacy wellbeing day. Students will have a session in the morning with their Head of Year to explain the literacy challenges that are being set, followed by a number of challenges to complete at home. Our first activity wellbeing day was extremely successful and we are confident that the students will again, engage in this day. The day will not only give them a well-deserved break from their screens, but also will hopefully allow them to enjoy the love of literacy. Please click on the link to access the information regarding the challenges that have been set and the structure of the day: [https://www.moorsidehigh.com/docs/Literacy\\_Wellbeing\\_Book\\_day\\_Student\\_leaflet\\_March\\_2021.pdf](https://www.moorsidehigh.com/docs/Literacy_Wellbeing_Book_day_Student_leaflet_March_2021.pdf)

## Lateral Flow Consent

Over the next week, our main aim is to get all students back in school as soon as we possibly can, staff will be using the off-screen day to plan and prepare for the safe return of the students. In order to support us with the logistics of the testing, please can we ask that you complete a short online form giving consent for your child to have the lateral flow tests in school. [Please click here to access the form](#). More information regarding this is available on our school website, but we would like to take the opportunity to urge you to complete the consent form as soon as possible; quick responses will really help with our planning and organisation. For example, if we have small numbers consenting to be tested within a year group, rather than being tested at Moorside High School, they may be requested to be tested at a local community test centre, but we will know more about the planning once we have the consent forms returned.

The final key element of Monday's announcements related to the need to wear face coverings in lessons, at least until Easter. We appreciate that this is not ideal, but we do not have any choice over it, I am sure you will agree, it seems a small price to pay for getting our students back into school. We will be in touch with more details on this in due course.

Finally, we are still waiting for further news regarding the summer examinations, we are hopeful that we will receive this information later this week, as soon as we hear anything we will communicate this to you.

Thank you for your continued support, if you have any questions regarding the off-screen literacy day or the online consent form, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@moorsidehigh.com](mailto:info@moorsidehigh.com)

Kind Regards

Mrs H.E. Ryles-Dean  
Deputy Headteacher- Behaviour & Attitude