



# Glebelands

Respect and Achieve

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23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am sure you will be aware that all schools will re-open during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March. As a school we are delighted at this news and are really looking forward to see all students back.

Before returning to school, we must ensure no member of the community is placed at unnecessary risk and parents should be reassured that we will continue to take precautions to keep the school as safe as possible. Students will remain in bubbles and will be expected to wear face masks at all times indoors (unless exempt).

Mass testing of students will form part of the re-opening. We would like all students to take a Covid test in school prior to returning to lessons. Students are expected to take 3 tests in school 3-5 days apart and then twice weekly at home. Although many parents and students will feel daunted by this, the past 6 weeks has given me peace of mind that this is possible. Students who have been attending 'key worker' school and staff that have been delivering live lessons from within school, have all been tested weekly in a safe and efficient manner. If you have individual concerns regarding your son/daughter being tested, please do not hesitate to get in touch and I will explain the process.

Prior to any testing, the school must receive written consent from parents to allow the testing to occur. I will send more details regarding the consent form at a later date.

By the end of the week we should have further information about how GCSE grades will be allocated. Once we know more, we will inform Year 11 parents and students.

I understand this has been a difficult time for everyone, and many parents will be concerned about how much face to face learning has been lost. As a staff body we will work extremely hard to ensure students are not disadvantaged by this. I want to reassure you that the students have been fantastic during online lessons and will be in a much better place than most schools.

School is much more than exams though, and within the next couple of weeks students will get to see, talk and laugh with their friends.

Over the coming days we will be creating our return to school plan which we will communicate with you as soon as possible.

With best wishes

**R Mitchell**

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