

27th August 2021



**The Queen Elizabeth
Academy**

“We Can and We Will”

**Parents and Carers
of new Year 7 TQEA students**

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you have all had a good summer.

We are working to keep our academy as safe as possible in line with the updated Government guidelines. You will be aware that we will be offering lateral flow tests to all our students when they return in September. Students will be offered two tests, three to five days apart, and the first tests will be completed on our inset days **Thursday 2nd September** and **Friday 3rd September**.

This will ensure students enter the academy on Monday September 6th having already been tested once which keeps our community safe and lessens the disruption to learning in the first week of term.

If you are happy for your child to be tested, please complete our online consent form (one per student) and return it as soon as possible and before they come into the academy for their test.

When taking their test students will be supervised by trained staff. The new in school ‘lateral flow’ tests are quick and easy using just a swab of the nose. *Please note if your child has had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days, they should not engage with this testing programme.* Testing will be offered free of charge.

Please ensure your child arrives at the academy at their testing window time, so that they can receive their first test. Tests are taking place in the school gym and access will be possible through the side gate near the car park and across the playground (if you do not know which tutor group please come in the mop up session):

Year 7	Tutor Groups and Times					
Thursday 2 nd September	Mr Morgan 9am	Mr Brown 9.20am	Ms Hargadon 9.45am	Ms Trewin 10.45am	Ms Rone-Clarke 11.10am	Y7 Mop ups 11.30am – 11.50am

Registration

To process the test, we will need to register all participating students, please fill in our information and consent form [via this online link](#) (one per student) so that we can pre-register all their details prior to their tests.

What if a pupil tests positive?

Participating staff and pupils who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

Individuals with a positive lateral flow test result will need to self-isolate in line with the guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection and seek a confirmatory PCR test.

What happens if the test is negative?

Students will start the Autumn term in the academy on Monday 6th September and then following a 2nd negative test taken during their first week resume their lessons and activities as normal. A pupil will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time they must immediately self-isolate, and book a PCR test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We look forward to welcoming all of our new Year 7 students to TQEA as they start their secondary education, if you have any queries about their start please contact us via email using info@tqea.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Harding', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mr N Harding
Principal
The Queen Elizabeth Academy