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THE THOMAS ADAMS SCHOOL, WEM

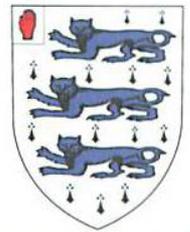
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ADAMS COLLEGE SIXTH FORM CENTRE

ADAMS HOUSE (BOARDING)

Headteacher: Mark Cooper BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Gavin Sterry BSc (Hons) MA



Dear Parents / Carers

Sixth Form On-site Re-opening

I write to give you some information about the full opening of sixth form. As you will see below, we plan to begin testing this week in order to enable a smooth start to face-to-face teaching next week. The testing of the students is a logistical challenge, and I am grateful for your prompt responses with the consent forms. Consenting to testing is voluntary, however, I would strongly encourage everyone to participate in the asymptomatic testing programme to help stop the transmission by identifying those who may unknowingly be infected with Covid19. This is a crucial part of the process as students can return to face-to-face learning following their first negative test result. Students who do not consent to being tested will return with their year group. This letter contains a range of key information around the re-opening of sixth form, after reading the letter, should you have any concerns please get in touch via sge@thomasadams.net

Testing

All Year 12 and 13 students, whose parents have given testing consent, should attend school for the first time on Friday 5th March.

A full bus service will be available on the morning of Friday 5th March with usual pick-up times, and coaches will be available to take those students home from 11.00am. Any students who do not normally travel by coach should please delay their arrival until 10.30am to minimise waiting times. Upon arrival at sixth form, **students should make their way to the Lamont Building**. We ask that social distancing is observed and face coverings must be worn, unless exempt.

Two subsequent tests per student will be arranged in accordance with Public Health England timescales.

Where no consent has been given, the first day of teaching year 12 & 13 will be Monday 8th March.

Students will need to register on the NHS website for a test before being able to go to the Stanier Hall for the testing. Staff will be on hand to supervise this process and will give students a test card and barcode to register their test. To aid this, it would help if students have their mobile phones/tablets/laptops with them and that they are charged and able to connect to the internet.

After Testing

Students who arrived using the school bus service or council transport will return to designated rooms and be socially distanced until buses leave at 11.00am, providing they received a negative test result. We are trying to minimise waiting times, however there will be some inevitable delay and slack. With this in mind, if students wish to bring any outstanding work to complete whilst they wait, this would be encouraged.

Those students who do not use transport will be required to leave site upon receiving a negative test result.

Positive test results

Should a positive test occur, we will isolate the student and notify close contacts of the need to isolate, in accordance with Public Health England guidance and our school risk assessment (available on the school website). With a positive test, students will not be permitted to return home on public transport or the



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school bus. Private arrangements will need to be made. We will undergo contact tracing and be in touch with any other students affected in due course.

Follow up tests

The Government have mandated that we complete two additional follow up tests. Once the students have had their first test, they can return to school from the 8th March. There is a timescale that has been given for these follow up tests and they apply to all students who have given consent to be tested. We will complete these during the normal school day, doing them in student non-teaching periods as much as possible. Students will be notified in advance of when these will take place.

Teaching and Learning

On Friday 5th March, remote learning will be suspended. This is to allow students to concentrate on getting the testing completed and not add any additional pressure of work and tasks on top of this. From Monday 8th, the normal timetable will resume in the same way as it was when students were last in school. Should students require a copy of their timetable, they should contact Mrs Evans sgc@thomasadams.net

Assessments

It has been communicated home to students that there will be no formal assessment for either Year 12 or 13 until at least after Easter. We want the priority to be to settle back into school and to reintroduce face to face classroom teaching without additional pressures.

Food

For those students who do not bring a packed lunch, the sixth form canteen will provide a full food service, similar to the arrangements made during the autumn term.

Transport

A full service will resume from Friday 5th March to facilitate the completion of testing. All services will run as normal from Monday 8th.

Face masks

Due to the new guidance, students **must** wear face coverings at all times when in the building. Therefore, please ensure that your child has **at least 2 masks** per day. This is in line with current guidance. There will be masks available in sixth form, but these will continue to be charged for on your Parent Pay account if your child needs to have one supplied by the school.

Hand sanitising

In accordance with government guidelines student should sanitise their hands regularly using the sanitising stations around the sixth form site.

Leaving Site

When we return to school on the 8th March, students will still be expected to follow national guidelines. Therefore, students will **not** be allowed off site during non-teaching periods or during break and lunchtime.

Attendance

As is usual, please contact Mrs Evans sgc@thomasadams.net to report absences from school.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult process.



Mark Cooper
Headteacher