



Seahaven Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Covid-19 Update: Return to School on 8th March

As we begin the new half term, I am very pleased to be writing to you following the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday that all students will be allowed to return to school on Monday 8th March. I know that this news will be greatly welcomed by parents, students and staff alike and I would like to thank you for your support since January whilst students have been learning from home. We have all managed very well over the Lockdown with learning progressing across all Year Groups and our Year 11 students are in good shape for whatever is ultimately announced about how qualifications will be awarded.

We should all be reassured and encouraged that the scientific and medical experts have concluded that it is now safe for children to return to school. It is so important to get students back into school before the Easter holidays so that we can continue to build the momentum of the school year and return to some normality after so long away.

With numbers of infections falling and the vaccination programme making good progress and reaching those most vulnerable to Covid-19, we can be hopeful that this stage of the pandemic is coming to an end. We must, of course, however, remain vigilant and continue to follow the guidelines that have become so routine across the school this academic year. Therefore, social distancing will remain in place, face coverings must be worn indoors where social distancing cannot be maintained (including in classrooms) and students will continue to learn in their bubbles and self-isolate should they be in close contact with someone who tests positive for the virus.

It is important, as ever, that we all remain vigilant to the symptoms of Covid-19 even though the risk to young people is very small. There are things we can all do to help reduce the risk of getting ill with Covid-19:

- wash our hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash our hands as soon as we get home
- cover our mouth and nose with a tissue or our sleeve (not our hands) when we cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash our hands afterwards

If your child shows any symptoms of Covid-19 (a new, continuous cough and/or a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste and smell) please do not send them to school or for their asymptomatic testing but go to the dedicated NHS 111 Covid site, <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19> , for details of what you need to do.



Principal Sarah Pringle

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Seahaven Academy
Haven Way
Newhaven
BN9 9TD

t 01273 517601

f 01273 611182

e office@seahavenacademy.org.uk

www.seahavenacademy.org.uk

Mass testing programme

As you will be aware, we now have the additional benefit of being able to test students three times for Covid-19 when they return to school. In doing so, we will be able to identify any students who are positive but asymptomatic and who need to self-isolate. We will be operating this by Year Group at the start of the week beginning Monday 8th March. We are working as quickly as we can to ensure a safe and secure return to school for all students and will let you know details about which year groups will be able to come on site on which date as soon as testing routines have been confirmed.

Parents who have yet to complete the consent form for testing should do so immediately and return it to school. It is available here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=u9aWExWnNUm4gYTW2Uobp_PRNQQRgAVOpvkUzv8_qkRUNIBCSjdYR1FBNVVXUFJTQjg5UU9TTUNBUC4u

If needed, paper copies can also be sent home. Please contact the office if you are not able to complete the online form. Following the on-site testing we will be able to offer all students home-test kits and will provide more information about this in due course.

Remote Learning

Over the next two weeks, our remote learning programme will continue in full. Each day is vital in your child's education so it is very important that all students continue to attend all online lessons, work hard from home and keep up with their learning, ready to start classes on site again in March.

We are really looking forward to welcoming students back to school soon and thank you again for everything you have been doing to encourage and support their learning from home.

Yours Sincerely



Sarah Pringle
Principal