

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer break. This letter contains all of the details needed regarding return to school dates and testing.

Covid testing

We are required to test students twice on their return to school in the Autumn term. As before, the decision on whether you would like your child to be tested is yours to make. If you wish for your child to be tested, please complete the link below by Friday 27th August 2021 at 12pm. You will need to complete this even if you consented previously.

http://www.nusa.org.uk/consent

We are able to test students the week before they return to school. We need to conduct 2 tests for every student who consents to testing and these tests have to be 3-5 days apart. Once the students have had 2 tests, they will then be provided with tests to take home each week until the end of September when the guidance will be reviewed.

Last time, we had to test students in year group bubbles. This made it tricky for parents/carers with multiple children across year groups. Now the 'bubbles' guidance has been relaxed, we will test the students on their first test in alphabetical (by surname) groups so that siblings can attend together.

Therefore, for those students who have consented, testing dates will be as follows: **Test 1 – Friday 3rd September**

Surnames beginning with	Appointment window	
A - E	09:00 – 10:30am	
F – K	10:30 – 12:00pm	
L-Q	12:30 – 2:00pm	
R - Z	2:00 – 3:30pm	

Test 2 – Year 7 only – Monday 6th September

Tests for new Year 7 students will take place during the school day Test 2 – Year 8, 9, 10, 11, NUSA16 – Tuesday 7th September

Surnames beginning with	Appointment window	
A - E	09:00 – 10:30am	
F – K	10:30 – 12:00pm	
L-Q	12:30 – 2:00pm	
R - Z	2:00 – 3:30pm	

Using the email address you have provided on the consent form, we will send your child's appointment window time to you on Tuesday 31st August as a reminder. The email will contain further instructions on where your child should go upon arrival at school. If the appointment takes place on a non-school day, your child will need to attend their appointment on time and will then leave the school site to return home once they have

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taken their test. If the appointment takes place on a school day, your child will be sent to take their test and will then return to their lesson as normal.

We cannot test any child for whom we have not received consent. The purpose of the testing is to pick up any cases where a child may be asymptomatic and at risk of spreading Covid-19 to more vulnerable members of our society.

The students will swab themselves and will be given as much time as they need to do this. The results are returned normally within 30 minutes. The results will be sent to the email address that you have provided on the consent form.

Returning to school

I have included the information sent in the letter in July to all parents in the information below as a reminder (Link for previous letter which contains information on uniform and the new school day times - <u>https://nusa.org.uk/data/letters/files/Letter_to_all_parents_09.07.21.pdf</u>) Due to the lack of transition for new Year 7 students, we will be inviting Year 7 back to school first to have two days in the building without any of the other students. This will allow them the opportunity to settle in to their new surroundings before the rest of the school returns. New year 7 students should arrive to school on Monday 6th September at 8:30am. All other year groups should return as follows:

Year group	Date	Time
11	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	8:30am
10	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	9:00am
9	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	9:30am
8	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	10:00am
12	Wednesday 8th September	8:30am
13	Thursday 9 th September	8:30am

If you have any concerns or queries, do get in touch. Take care, Emma Howard Head of School

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