

# Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Leadership, Coaching and Volunteering

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Compassion

Respect

Truth

Service

Forgiveness



1 March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

## Return of pupils to school week beginning 8 March 2021

I am now able to write to you with more detailed information about arrangements for the safe return of students to school next week. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all students back into school by Thursday 11 March for face-to-face teaching. It is very reassuring for parents, staff and students to know that regular tests will now be made available to identify asymptomatic cases. Obviously we all want schools to be fully open and we hope that as many students and staff as possible can be tested.

### **What have schools been asked to do?**

The government has now said that all students can return to school from Monday 8 March. However, before they return to the classroom, students are being asked to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT). These tests have been sent to schools, with the aim of picking up students or staff who have the virus, but are not showing any symptoms. Please do not send your child to school if you think they have Covid symptoms. Instead, please ring 111 and arrange a PCR test in the usual way.

### **How many tests will my child take?**

The government has asked that students take three LFTs in school and are then given a pack of LFTs that they can take home to use thereafter. Having done three in school (one before they return fully), they will be familiar with what they need to do with their home testing kit.

### **How will this work at BGN?**

For their first test, students will be invited into school on a particular day and time (please see the details from page 4 onwards). They will take their test and return home straight afterwards. Should their test be positive, a member of staff will contact you to let you know. Once students have done their first test, they will return to school the following day, providing they are not positive, and begin their lessons as normal.

### **Will my child remain in school on the day of their first test?**

No, students are only required to be in school at their allocated time, to take their test and then leave the school site. We would ask that you remind them of the social distancing rules. They do not have to come into school wearing uniform on the day of their test.

### **What happens on the day of their test?**

Students must only come in for the time allocated. They must go directly to the Sports Hall, where they will be met by members of staff. They will be directed as to what to do on arrival. Once their test is completed, they must leave the school site immediately.

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Principal: **Ms Niamh Dolan, BSc (Hons)** [headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk)

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**Can I drive my child to school?**

Yes. Please arrive on to the school site via the Springfield Road entrance and leave via the Addison Road gate. Please park on the school playground (there will be a member of staff available to direct you) and refrain from parking in Springfield Avenue or Addison Road and please do not congregate on either of these roads whilst waiting for your child. Instead, please wait in the car on the playground for your child to return after they have had their test.

**Can I come into the test centre with my child?**

No. Parents must not accompany their child into the test centre. There will be a number of BGN staff who will be familiar to students and can reassure them if they are anxious. We will also have trained staff who will be talking them through how to self-swab.

**Does my child need to bring anything with them on the day of their test?**

They will need to bring a face covering. We would advise appropriate clothing, as they may need to queue outside the Sports Hall. They do not need to wear school uniform.

**What happens if my child tests positive?**

A member of BGN staff will contact you to inform you. You will also receive a message from NHS Track and Trace to the phone number held on the school system. Your child and your household will then need to self-isolate for 10 days.

**What if the test result is negative?**

BGN School will not contact you. You will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace. Please note that a negative test result means that your child is not positive on that day. All government guidelines regarding social distancing still need to be adhered to.

**What happens after my child has been tested?**

After your child has been tested, they will return home immediately. However, we will expect them to be in school as normal for their lessons the following day and from then onwards in school uniform for Years 7 through to 11.

**Will the school bus operate as normal week beginning 8 March?**

No. The school bus will be available as follows:-

- Tuesday 9 March – Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13
- Wednesday 10 March – Year 7, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12, Year 13
- Thursday 11 March onwards – all year groups

Please note your child is not allowed to travel to and from school on the bus the day of their test.

**What happens if I do not give consent?**

We will check that we have parental consent for every student as they arrive to be tested. Any student for whom we do not have consent will not be permitted to take a test and will be asked to return home.

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**What happens if my child does not want to take a test on their allocated day?**

We would respect this. No child will be forced to take a test. However, in order to receive home testing kits from school, students have to be tested three times in school.

**What happens if I do not want my child to be tested?**

We would strongly encourage all parents to allow their child to have a test. It is a simple and quick procedure. There will be lots of staff in school to support students. However, if you decide you do not want your child to be tested, they must remain at home on the day their year group is being tested and continue with their remote learning which will be set on the VLE, as usual. They should come into school ready for lessons the next day, with the rest of their year group.

**What will happen to lessons from Monday 8 March to Wednesday 10 March?**

Unfortunately we are unable to run live lessons from Monday to Wednesday next week. This is because staff will be redeployed to assist students who are coming into school to be tested. There will be no live lessons on those days. Students will be set work on the VLE as usual by their subject teachers. On the day of their test, subject teachers will be mindful of the fact that a particular year group will be away from the VLE while being tested and will set work accordingly.

**When will students receive their second and third tests?**

We will have carried out all initial tests by the end of Wednesday 10 March. We will co-ordinate the second and third tests by taking children out of lessons. They will remain in school unless they test positive, in which case you will be contacted by the school to make arrangements for them to get home safely to self-isolate.

**Are there any changes to the school day?**

Students will return to the timetable that was in use prior to Christmas. They will remain in their year group bubbles, as before, and there will be a staggered lunch break. There is a staggered start as before for Key Stage 3 (8.45 am) and Key Stage 4 and 5 (9 am). School begins at 9 am for everyone and the day will end at 3 pm, except on Wednesdays when the day finishes at 2.20 pm. The rule regarding the wearing of face coverings in communal areas and on buses has not changed. The government are now also recommending that face coverings are worn in other situations where social distancing is difficult, including in classrooms. We will give students more details regarding this next week. If your child already has an exemption certificate regarding face coverings, they will not need to apply for a new one.

**What if I have children in different year groups?**

Unfortunately, due to the fact that children need to be tested in their year group bubbles, they must ONLY attend for testing on the appropriate day for their year group. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

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**What do I need to do now?**

Please follow the instructions that will be emailed to you separately and complete the **online consent form** as soon as possible. Please note you must complete an individual consent form **for each child in your family**. Sixth Form students are allowed to complete their own consent form. Please find attached the individual timetables for each year group which details when they need to be in school for their tests.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Niamh Dolan  
Principal

| Year 7 Test Times |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Arrival Time      | Tuesday 9 March |
| 9.00              | 7A              |
| 9.40              | 7B              |
| 10.10             | 7C              |
| 10.50             | 7D              |
| 11.30             | 7E              |

| Year 8 Test Times |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Arrival Time      | Wednesday 10 March |
| 12.30             | 8A                 |
| 1.00              | 8B                 |
| 1.30              | 8C                 |
| 2.00              | 8D                 |
| 2.30              | 8E                 |

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| <b>Year 9 Test Times</b> |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Arrival Time</b>      | <b>Wednesday 10 March</b> |
| <b>9.00</b>              | <b>9A</b>                 |
| <b>9.40</b>              | <b>9B</b>                 |
| <b>10.10</b>             | <b>9C</b>                 |
| <b>10.50</b>             | <b>9D</b>                 |
| <b>11.30</b>             | <b>9E</b>                 |

| <b>Year 10 Test Times</b> |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Arrival Time</b>       | <b>Tuesday 9 March</b> |
| <b>12.30</b>              | <b>10A</b>             |
| <b>1.00</b>               | <b>10B</b>             |
| <b>1.30</b>               | <b>10C</b>             |
| <b>2.00</b>               | <b>10D</b>             |
| <b>2.30</b>               | <b>10E</b>             |

| <b>Year 11 Test Times</b> |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Arrival Time</b>       | <b>Monday 8 March</b> |
| <b>12.30</b>              | <b>11A</b>            |
| <b>1.00</b>               | <b>11B</b>            |
| <b>1.30</b>               | <b>11C</b>            |
| <b>2.00</b>               | <b>11D</b>            |
| <b>2.30</b>               | <b>11 E</b>           |

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| <b>Sixth Form Test Times</b> |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Arrival Time</b>          | <b>Monday 8 March</b> |
| <b>9.00</b>                  | <b>13A</b>            |
| <b>9.20</b>                  | <b>13B</b>            |
| <b>9.40</b>                  | <b>13C</b>            |
| <b>9.50</b>                  | <b>13D</b>            |
| <b>10.10</b>                 | <b>13E</b>            |
| <b>10.30</b>                 | <b>12A</b>            |
| <b>10.50</b>                 | <b>12B</b>            |
| <b>11.10</b>                 | <b>12C</b>            |
| <b>11.30</b>                 | <b>12D</b>            |
| <b>11.50</b>                 | <b>12E/F</b>          |

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