Thursday 25th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your support and co-operation over the past few weeks. I know that these have been challenging times for all of us and we appreciate the way in which you have worked with the school to keep your daughters motivated and engaged with online learning.

**Return to School on 8th March**

You will have seen the Prime Minister’s announcement on Monday that all schools in England will be reopening during the week commencing Monday 8th March. We are looking forward to welcoming back your children into our WSFG ‘family’; we recognise how important the return to school will be for their learning and for their mental health and wellbeing. **We intend to begin the process by asking students in year 11 to come into school for tests on Friday 5th March** and then to go home following their tests, which would mean that year 11 students will be able to return to lessons on Monday the 8th of March.

Friday’s Greensheet will include further details about reopening and I will also send a parental letter early the following week with all of the information you need, ready for your child to return to school. As you can imagine, there is a great deal to organise but I want to reassure you that our plans will prioritise the students and a smooth, safe transition back to classroom learning. We already have a rigorous and well-established set of procedures for hand-washing and social distancing in order to minimise the risk of infection and this will continue when students return. An updated Risk Assessment will also be published on our website. The government’s guidance for the safe reopening of secondary schools asks us to keep in place the measures we had in the autumn term but also introduces the use of face coverings in the classroom and Lateral Flow testing, which we are now organising.

**Testing**

In the meantime, however, we are asking for your support again. **So that the testing runs smoothly and efficiently, we are sending out a link to our consent form in advance so that, as and when we begin to return, we can quickly and efficiently test as many pupils as possible. The tests are not compulsory but we would strongly advocate that you provide consent for your child, considering the safety of the whole school community.**

Please find the link to the consent form below:

Consent Form

**Please return the form by noon on Monday 1st March.**

Yours faithfully



Helen Marriott

Headteacher