



1 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Return to College for new Year 7 students

The new term for Year 7 starts on Tuesday, 7 September 2021 with an induction day. Students should report to South Site by 8.40am in full school uniform and with the appropriate equipment for the day ahead.

There is an expectation by the Government and Public Health England for all secondary school children to be tested for Covid-19 upon their return to College, prior to going back into the classroom. Year 7 students are timetabled to have their first test as part of their induction day along with others in their tutor group, and will be accompanied to our testing centre by their tutor.

Whilst testing is not compulsory, we are hoping that you will support us in 'asymptomatic testing' to ensure that all students and staff can return to College safely. Please note that the asymptomatic tests, which will be used on this occasion, are the Orient Gene rapid nose-only tests. We also strongly recommend that a lateral flow test is carried out at home on Monday, 6 September 2021. As Infection rates are very high in Cornwall, we attend to take as many precautions as possible to ensure staff and students return as safely as possible.

If your child has tested positive for COVID within the last 90 days (since the 1 June) they do not need to engage in the onsite Orient Gene Lateral Flow Testing. If this is the case please inform the College via covid@helston.cornwall.sch.uk so we can update our internal records.

We will contact the parent or carer of anyone who tests positive shortly after the test has been processed. Students with a positive result will need to be collected from College and take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). If this is the case, please visit www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. When ordering a PCR test, you should choose to visit a drive-through/walk through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

Your child cannot be tested without the appropriate consent in place. We request that you complete an electronic consent form in advance of the induction day which can be found here:

Consent form: <https://forms.gle/7iQsHqjS3V4tDJ5M7>

The second lateral flow test will take place during the normal College day. Students will be given an appointment time and leave their class for a short period to attend our testing centre. Testing will then move to home testing which will continue until the end of September when we expect further government guidance.

Face coverings

Due to the high rate of Covid-19 infections in Cornwall, we require students to wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas until the end of September, when this will be reviewed. If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, then please let us know. Face coverings should also be worn on school buses and public transport.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College via the enquiries@helston.cornwall.sch.uk email if you have any questions about the return programme for September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. N. Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Mr Wayne Jenkins
Headteacher