

24th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families were able to enjoy a relaxing and safe half-term. Thank you for your ongoing support with the return to remote learning this week.

You will be aware that the Prime Minister has announced a 'roadmap' that, over the coming months, gradually aims to lift many of the restrictions that have been required to combat the spread of COVID-19. This includes details of the wider re-opening of schools from March 8th. Any news of a return to school for students should be seen as a welcome prospect but there are considerable logistics to be put in place to not only allow the school to meet its obligations to re-opening for all students but to be able to deliver on the protocols required for 'testing' students ahead of their return to the classroom. These protocols are in addition to social distancing and public health measures that have been in place since September and will continue for the foreseeable future.

Given the complexity of putting these new protocols in place alongside existing measures, we are therefore not yet in a position to confirm what the return to school will look like on March 8th but it is highly likely students will have to return on a phased basis. Not all year groups are likely to be able to return simultaneously on this day. We aim to be able to provide further details no later than Monday March 1st.

In the meantime, we do require parents/carers to give their consent for their child(ren) to receive the lateral flow tests for COVID-19 in school and it would greatly help our planning if you could complete this by Wednesday 3rd March 2021. Please note that each student requires separate consent. Please [click here](#) to view the online consent form. Please also find attached to this communication the "Privacy" notice relating specifically to "testing".

If you experience any issues with the online consent, please email Mrs Allbury to receive a word version, allburyl@bromfords.essex.sch.uk.

We are also asking for additional volunteers to support us with the lateral flow test programme. If you are available to volunteer please email Mrs Allbury directly, allburyl@bromfords.essex.sch.uk, who will provide you with further details on how to register your interest.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Jochen Tree
Deputy Headteacher (Quality of Education)