



ORMISTON  
**SWB**  
ACADEMY

[OAT]  
Ormiston Academies Trust  
AN OAT ACADEMY

Principal: Mr. W R Hughes | BEng (Hons), NPQH  
Dudley Street, Bilston, WV14 0LN  
Tel: 01902 493797  
Web: [www.ormistonswbacademy.co.uk](http://www.ormistonswbacademy.co.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@oswba.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@oswba.co.uk)

*Our Vision: 'All SWB students will be respectful, responsible learners experiencing a first class education'*

**Letter to all school students / parents / guardians and staff**

**Date 31.12.20**

**School re-opening in January 2021 & NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for staff and students**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas, notwithstanding the COVID-19 restrictions that we are all living with.

As you know, we have worked incredibly hard since the start of the pandemic in March to keep our school as safe as possible, and that work has continued over the Christmas holiday period. I would like to thank our incredible staff for their commitment and professionalism, which has seen many working over the holidays.

My letter today includes important information relating to when your child will return to school at the start of this coming term (*following new Government guidance issued on 30.12.20*), and relating to the COVID-19 testing process for staff and students.

### **Information relating to school re-opening in January 2021**

The Government has now announced that secondary schools and colleges will re-open on a phased basis, as follows:

- If your child is classed as **vulnerable** or if you and your partner is a **key worker**, then your child may return to school on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January** if you wish. We will be making contact to those students who meet the criteria as vulnerable. This will include those who have a social worker or who have an education, health and care plan. Parents identifying as key workers will be required to provide evidence of their place of work, contact details and will need to be in work the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> January. If you believe your child meet these criteria please contact [dmason@oswba.co.uk](mailto:dmason@oswba.co.uk) or [swoodbine@oswba.co.uk](mailto:swoodbine@oswba.co.uk) by 1000 Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- If your child is in **Year 11 and Year 13**, then your child will return to school on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January**. Your child is expected to engage fully with their remote learning during the week of 5<sup>th</sup> January so that they keep up with their education
- If your child is in **Years 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12**, then your child will return to school on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January**. Your child is expected to engage fully with their remote learning via Class Charts during the weeks of both 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January so that they keep up with their education
- If your child has exams in **BTEC Health & Social Care, LIBF Certificate in Financial Studies, Applied Science, Media, Engineering and Travel & Tourism, these will still go ahead as planned**. Mrs Hughes and Mrs Bayley (Senior Directors for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5) will be in touch with students directly with further details.

As before, a great deal of planning and risk assessment has gone into ensuring that our school continues to be as safe as for students and staff, in line with latest Government and Public Health England guidance.

We will continue to take decisions in the best interests of our students, working with you and keeping you informed every step of the way, while following Government rules and advice.



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### **Information relating to NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for staff and students**

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests can help staff and students remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary. However, we are participating as a school and I would encourage all students and staff to take part as well.

We will be testing all staff and students who want to participate from week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, extending this as more students return in following weeks.

I enclose an instructional leaflet with some more information (below) as well as a consent form.

If you are happy for your child to be tested, please:

- Fill in the form below **or** follow the link sent via our SWB Parent Mail text and complete an online version of the form
- Please complete the enclosed consent statement (one per pupil) and return it and the completed form below to [alampitt@oswba.co.uk](mailto:alampitt@oswba.co.uk) or hand in to Reception.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat. For under-18s, staff can oversee the swab process.

Results take around half an hour from testing and will be shared directly with staff and students participating. Where participants are under-16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

The Government has shared information with us from Oxford University and Public Health England, which have indicated the tests are as accurate in identifying a case as a 'PCR test' (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity but are considered better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently. Testing will be offered free of charge.

I hope that the information in this letter is helpful and clear. Please do ensure you complete the form below and the consent form attached, if you are happy for your child to take a COVID-19 test, from January 5<sup>th</sup> 2021 onwards. If you have any questions, please do also email these to [alampitt@oswba.co.uk](mailto:alampitt@oswba.co.uk)

In the meantime, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy New Year. Please do continue to take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

**Mr Rod Hughes**  
Principal



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## TESTING CONSENT FORM

### Consent form for COVID-19 testing in School

This form is based on the DfE common template which has been designed for use by parents and guardians of students and under 16s, students and students over 16 and staff.

- **For students and students younger than 16 years** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to enrol.
- **Students and students over 16** can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- **Staff** will complete this form themselves.

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the academy about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the letter dated [31.12.20].

2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.

3. I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for a lateral flow test.

4. I consent that my / my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.

5. I understand that if my child / my result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the Academy except where they/you are a close contact of a confirmed positive.

6. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I agree to arranging and completing a PCR test using the government website, which shall be sent the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.

7. I agree that I / they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.

8. I agree that if my / my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school and I understand that I / my child will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.

9. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive but I / my child has tested negative, I / they will continue to attend school but will be tested every day at school for 7 days.

10. I consent to the information being collected in the form being processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act UK for the purposes of health and or social care. More information about how the information is used can be found at



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<http://www.ormistonacademiestrust.co.uk/documents-and-policies/>

### Consent Form

<b>Parent / Guardian / Staff name</b>	
<b>Home postcode</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Mobile number</b>	
<b>House phone number</b>	
<b>Name of pupil/student/staff to be tested (print)</b>	
<b>Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Gender at birth</b>	
<b>Currently showing any COVID-19 symptoms? (Yes/No)</b>	
<b>Year group (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Name of parent or guardian if under 16 (print)</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Relationship to child if under 16</b>	
<b>Signature to confirm agreement to this consent form</b>	
<b>Date</b>	