



MALVERN COLLEGE

24 February 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

I am very pleased to inform you that the UK Government has announced that all year groups may return to school for face-to-face lessons from Monday, 8 March 2021. This letter, therefore, outlines important information for pupils and parents as we prepare to ensure that this is undertaken as effectively and safely as possible.

Covid Testing

All pupils, as well as staff, will need to provide a negative test before they are able to return to face-to-face lessons. The College already has an on-site testing centre (located in The Grub, next to School Togs) which has been testing pupils and staff who have been on-site throughout this term.

UK-based boarders

Boarders who are currently in the UK will be tested on the afternoon of Sunday 7 March and will be able to enter boarding houses once they have received a negative test result. Parents are kindly asked to remain in their cars during the testing process. We are sorry but parents will not be allowed to enter the boarding houses. The testing centre will be open from 2pm until 6pm.

Overseas boarders

Pupils who are allowed to travel may return before 8 March in order to quarantine, should they wish to do so. Pupils may quarantine either with guardians, parents, or in school from Monday 1 March. Online lessons will continue until the end of term and therefore we will fully support families who choose not to travel to school for the remainder of this term. Please would you confirm travel plans with your Housem, using the House email address?

Pupils who are not travelling with guardians or parents from the point of arrival in the UK, will need to complete the College transport form:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/MalvernCollege/CollegeTransportBookingForm>

UK government guidance states that the following conditions must be met before travelling. However, we strongly advise that appropriate checks are made with the relevant airline and government websites.

- Have proof of a negative coronavirus test before travel (please consult your airline for further guidance).
- Book a coronavirus travel test package on the CTM portal:
<https://quarantinehotels.ctmportal.co.uk/Quarantine/Home.aspx> - this books the tests for Day 2 and Day 8 after arrival, which are now compulsory. **It is not possible for the school to organise the travel test package on your behalf.**
- Complete a passenger locator form via:

<https://www.gov.uk/provide-journey-contact-details-before-travel-uk>

- You may also choose to book a 'test to release' package. This involves a PCR test on Day 5 of quarantine and if the result is negative, self-isolation may cease. However, a further test on Day 8 would still be required. The PCR test can be organised through the school and the results are likely to be received on Day 7. Please email the nurse manager to book test to release via:
nursemanager@malverncollege.org.uk

The following website may be useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-quarantine-when-you-arrive-in-england>

Due to the current regulations, our recommendation for boarders who are UK nationals travelling from the 'Red List' travel ban countries, as designated by the UK government, is that they do not travel but continue to access online lessons. Further details may be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transport-measures-to-protect-the-uk-from-variant-strains-of-covid-19>

Any EU students returning in March, or the Summer Term, are advised, as a precaution, to carry a screenshot or printout of their EU settlement status/pre-settlement status decision in case they are asked to provide this. Any EU students who have not yet obtained EUSS/PSS are strongly advised to do so, otherwise they will be in breach of immigration regulations from 30 June (the summer term ends after this date). Please see previous communications from our Admissions Department for further information.

Day pupils

We will expect to test day pupils on the morning of Monday 8 March so that they can return to face-to-face lessons that afternoon. The Department for Education's (DfE) guidance is that pupils should return to face-to-face education following their first negative test result. They will be asked to undergo two further tests within their first ten days back at school. Thereafter pupils will be tested twice a week. This replaces the daily temperature check, on the advice of Public Health England.

Pupils should arrive at The Grub during the designated time slot (see below). They should not go to boarding houses beforehand. Parents who have accompanied their child should remain in their car until the negative test result is confirmed. Normal lessons will resume after lunch, at which point full school uniform will be expected.

UVIth	8:30 – 9:30
LVIth	9:30 – 10:30
Hundred and Pre-Sixth	10:45 – 11:30
Remove	11:30 - 12:15
Foundation Year	12:15 - 13:00

Return Dates

Leave-out: we have made the decision to move the Leave-out weekend earlier by one week, from the weekend of 12-14 March to the preceding weekend of 5-7 March. This allows boarding pupils to prepare for the return to school on the 7 March, and there will then be three straight weeks for academic headway to be made before the end of term.

Academic lessons will start after the Leave-out weekend at 2.00pm on Monday 8 March with period 5. This is to allow for the testing of all pupils before they return to face-to-face lessons.

If parents have already made plans for the published Leave-out weekend (12-14 March), teachers will ensure that any work covered is available and lessons are recorded where necessary.

Other important information:

Covid Protocols

As we had planned in January, we will expect pupils to abide by our clear and detailed set of protocols that follow Government guidelines.

Face coverings: pupils will be expected to wear face coverings in all school buildings, including lessons unless told otherwise. In boarding houses, face coverings should be worn in communal areas. Pupils should return to school with several face coverings and they must carry a plastic bag to store their face covering in when it is not being worn. As before, pupils must also have a bag in which to carry their books and equipment for lessons.

We are mindful of the need for continued vigilance and therefore our system of controls will remain in place until further notice. Pupils will be in House and Year Group bubbles, as they were in the Autumn Term. Hygiene and enhanced cleaning protocols remain in place.

Future dates

End of Term: Term formally ends on Friday 26 March, with academic lessons finishing at 3.40pm on Thursday 25 March. Houses may plan some sort of event that evening which all pupils, both those onsite and those joining online, will be able to enjoy.

Easter Holidays: having previously stated that the College will be closed over the Easter Holidays, we are mindful of the need to minimise travel for some of our boarders and therefore we will remain open over the holiday period.

Please email fiona.doherty@malverncollege.org.uk by **Monday 8 March** if you would like to reserve a place. Charges will be in line with those for the October half-term.

Start of Summer Term: Term starts on Monday 19 April with boarders returning that evening and academic lessons commencing at 8.45am on Tuesday 20 April.

Boarding houses will be open for overseas pupils to quarantine from Monday 12 April. More specific details will be clarified nearer the time.

Academic and timetable matters

Timetable: from Monday 8 March, the timing of lessons will remain as it has been for the first half of the Spring Term with the one change in that afternoon lessons will start earlier at 2.00pm so that there is more time for CCAs and outdoor activities after lessons as daylight hours lengthen.

Lessons will be taught in classrooms for those able to attend face-to-face lessons, with those unable to attend in person joining lessons online.

We are still awaiting final assessment and awarding details for those pupils in all exam year groups. These will be sent out to pupils and parents of the relevant year groups as soon as they have been announced and then interpreted by us.

Co-curricular and Super-curricular Activities: will continue as they did throughout the Autumn Term, including a full array of cultural, intellectual and physical activities, available with pupils able to join in person and, wherever possible, online.

We are aware that for many families who are overseas, travel is complicated, but we are looking forward to having pupils back on campus and making the most of the rest of the Spring Term.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Keith Metcalfe', with a horizontal line underneath.

Keith Metcalfe
Headmaster