



Ms Sue Lovecy, Head of School

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

23rd February 2021

**Keeping in touch letter 8**

**Back to school!**

You will all now have processed the fantastic news that we are returning to school from the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. We are so looking forward to seeing you all in person and finding out how you have been over the lockdown and what you have kept busy with. Below is the detail of how we will return and, as usual, if you have any questions give the reception team a ring or drop an email to [reception@stmartins3-16.org](mailto:reception@stmartins3-16.org)

**Primary phase and nursery**

All primary children will return on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. The timings of the day will stay the same as the autumn term and all of the same safety measures will be in place. Parents please remember that it is compulsory for you all to wear a face covering on the school site.

**Secondary phase return**

This will be staggered to allow us to carry out 2/3 Covid19 flow tests on all students returning. There is another copy of the **test consent letter** attached to this letter. Please could all parents return this by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March. It is really important that these are signed and returned. You can return this by email and there will be a box of consent letters and for return slips in the foyer.

**We will return as follows:**

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> March – year 10 students

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> March - year 7

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> March – year 11

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> March - Year 8

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9

When the tests are complete the year groups will then remain in school. Online learning using the current online learning timetable will continue during this week for those students working at home.

Students who have been attending throughout the lockdown in our arts centre can attend all week as they have already been tested. These students should attend their normal lessons, they may be the only student in the classroom. They can, if they choose, work from home and re-join with their year groups.

**Important new safety guidance for secondary aged pupils**

**Please note that face coverings are now compulsory for all students at all times inside and outside where social distancing is not possible. At St Martins School that means at all times other than whilst eating /drinking or**

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**taking part in a PE / dance activity.** Please ensure that your son/daughter has a clean face covering and a spare with them every day.

Students who are exempt from wearing face coverings as per the government guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

must be wearing the lanyards indicating they are making every effort to maintain 2 metre social distancing at all times.

### Testing

We will be testing all secondary aged pupils on their first day back and 4 / 5 days later. After the in school tests they will receive a home testing kit with instructions for use. I will be doing assemblies showing students how to complete the test and will forward the link to a video demonstration for parents.

Finally, I hope you had all recovered from the Fun, feel good Friday and the sight of Mr Machin's visage on various celebrities faces. If you created any poems, artwork or sea shanties over the holidays please email them in. Or bring them in person after the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. I will judge the entries at the end of the first week back.

### IT

Many thanks to the Charlotte Hartey Foundation who have donated fantastic Tablets to school to support both current online learning and future catch up programmes.

We have already been able to loan out Tablets to students who are having difficulties with ICT access at home, this generous donation will help particularly students in yr10 reach their potential as they work towards GCSE Exams next year.



Please contact school if you need support with ICT and thanks again to the Foundation for such a brilliant way to support young people into a brighter future.

Missing you all, but not for much longer.

Stay safe, keep smiling

Sue Lovecy - Your Head of School

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