



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE

Returning in January 2021

An overview

This communication details the outline plan for a staggered return to school in January 2021. Over a seven-day period, starting on Monday 11 January, every boy in the school will be tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to their boarding house. As before, we will be conducting the mass screening of pupils at Kingsgate Park (the site of our sports centre). We will have an enhanced testing capacity and, using a pool-testing protocol, it will be possible to repopulate the boarding houses and the school over the seven days. No boy will enter a boarding house until he has received confirmation of a negative test, thus ensuring that there is a greatly reduced chance of the virus spreading within the established school bubble. VI Book 1 and V Book are priorities because of their mock examinations, which will take place within the first two weeks of term. Middle Part also have internal examinations in Common Time, so they too will be prioritised in the staggering so that their face-to-face teaching can commence at the earliest opportunity:

Year group (NC year)	Booking availability
VI Book 1 (Year 13)	0800 – 1800 11 Jan. & 0800 – 1000 12 Jan.
V Book (Year 11)	1000 – 1800 12 Jan. & 0800 – 1400 13 Jan.
Middle Part (Year 10)	1400 – 1800 13 Jan. & 0800 – 1800 14 Jan.
VI Book 2 (Year 12)	0800 – 1800 15 Jan. & 0800 – 1200 16 Jan.
Junior Part (Year 9)	1200 – 1800 16 Jan. & 0800 – 1600 17 Jan.
Overspill (any year group)	1600 – 1800 17 Jan.

Boys awaiting their return to school will be taught remotely from Tuesday 12 January.

How do I book a test?

An electronic booking system will be made available via *Winchester Weekly* on Tuesday 8th December in order to allow parents to book tests for their son's designated time. You will also receive a separate e-mail, with a link to the booking system, containing a unique identifier for your son, which will be a required piece of information to make each individual booking.

In the previous mass screening programme during November 2020, we encouraged siblings to return on their designated days, but allowed some siblings to return with their elder brothers. The schedule this coming January is particularly tight, so we would like to reduce instances of this to a minimum. If you have no choice but to return your sons from different year groups on the same day, please would you contact Dr Cullerne (jpc@wincoll.ac.uk) in the first instance, so that he can try to build this into the planning. We are aware that international parents may have booked flights prior to the release of these details of the staggered return. We would like to identify, and plan for the return of, international pupils who must return on a day that is not designated for their year group. If you find yourself in this situation, please contact Dr Cullerne (jpc@wincoll.ac.uk).



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What will happen on the day of testing?

As before, the electronic booking system will allocate an arrival slot and parents are asked to arrive on time. Boys should avoid the use of public transport to travel to school. We would ask all parents/guardians to bring the boys by private transport and remain with them until the result of the test is known.

In the appropriate arrival slot, parents' vehicles will be directed to an area where a swab will be taken by one of our trained nurses from the vehicle. The time from the swab to the result is up to two hours. As before, you may wait in the carpark or drive home if you are local. We hope parents will understand that once the swab is taken, any close contact with others outside of their household would risk invalidating the test result. We will be providing hot drinks and bottled water from a refreshment station throughout the day, and there will be a walk mapped out on Kingsgate Park path to stretch legs. Portaloo facilities will be available at the parking site.

Results will be sent by e-mail to parents, boys, housemasters and matrons. When boys are cleared to join their boarding house, parents/guardians should drop their son off at the boarding house within 45 minutes of receiving the negative result e-mail.

There are occasionally unavoidable delays, and we will keep parents, boys, housemasters and matrons informed by e-mail, when these arise. In these cases, we will prioritise families who are waiting in the carpark once testing has resumed.

What happens if my son gets a positive result?

If your son tests positive, then he will need to return home to self-isolate. For international pupils, where guardians are unable to assist, we will organise some accommodation for self-isolation. During this period, boys in this position will be able to access the remote learning provision.

A more detailed instruction for the testing process will be sent with the booking form next Tuesday 8th December via *Winchester Weekly*.

Dr John Cullerne, Undermaster