

MBO/CS/SLT/Covid-19/March Wider Re-Opening
23rd February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Plans for Wider Re-opening and Covid-19 Testing for Staff and Students

I hope that you are safe and well. Following the Prime Minister's announcement last night, we are very much looking forward to welcoming all of our students back into the academy from Monday 8th March. Whilst I am confident that the quality of our online learning provision has been of a good quality, it is no replacement for high quality face-to-face teaching in a classroom. I am grateful to all of the staff who have delivered high quality online learning during this period of national lockdown and I am proud of our students who have engaged so well with everything that has been on offer.

We received the Government's latest guidance document last night and this sets out in detail the steps we must take to fully re-open our academy safely. As I am sure you will appreciate, we have a lot to do over the next two weeks to ensure we are ready to welcome everybody back from the 8th March. On their return, students will notice some changes to the way in which the academy is organised. All of these changes are being put in place to ensure everyone's health, safety and welfare and I encourage you to support us in ensuring that these measures are adhered to by all. All students will receive a clear briefing and explanation of any changes and expectations on their return.

Under the government's guidelines issued last night, we are required to offer all students three Covid-19 Lateral Flow Tests in our on-site Asymptomatic Testing Site and these tests need to be conducted 3-5 days apart. This will require us to invite our students back to school in a phased approach. We are currently finalising our plans and I will write to you shortly to confirm when your child will be able to return to school. Following these three on site tests, students will be expected to carry out a further two tests at home on a weekly basis and inform the academy of the results. We are still waiting confirmation from the Government of how this will work and will inform you accordingly.

Whilst this test is voluntary, I would encourage everyone to take it as 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 Academy as safe as possible under the current pandemic circumstances.

However, this can only take place if we have permission from you. Therefore, I would be grateful if could complete the online consent form using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AwcgPwucykSiDAkwWtt6ZDHLvlh6YNHkrtOlq75vTRUQTJWWEVZTFk5OFZDS0gzTzU2UFhJNUVDQS4u>

We cannot offer Lateral Flow Testing without your consent. Please note that if you have already submitted your consent, then you do not need to complete this form again. 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 (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared

Headteacher: **Mr M Brown B.Sc (Hons)** | Winifred Holtby Academy

Midmere Avenue, Leads Road, Kingston Upon Hull, HU7 4PW | Company Number 8426992

T: 01482 826207

E: enquiry@winifredholtbyacademy.com

W: www.winifredholtbyacademy.co.uk

directly with staff and students participating. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Year Team at the Academy.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Brown
Headteacher

Headteacher: **Mr M Brown B.Sc (Hons)** | Winifred Holtby Academy

Midmere Avenue, Leads Road, Kingston Upon Hull, HU7 4PW | Company Number 8426992

T: 01482 826207 E: enquiry@winifredholtbyacademy.com W: www.winifredholtbyacademy.co.uk