



Dear Parent / Carer

**RE: Return to School – Year 7 and 8**

I hope that both you and your family are well. My staff and I are looking forward to welcoming our Year 7 and 8 learners back to the academy.

I understand this is both an exciting and potentially nervous time. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that every member of staff across the breadth of the institution and our Trust has worked diligently to prepare for a ‘safe’ reopening. Many of the processes and procedures which were put in place for our September return still stand.

The academy will continue to operate multiple entrance points, learners in Year 7 will continue to access the school via the entrance through High Arcal Park. However, the only alteration to entrance points is for **Year 8**, who will now arrive through the **main gate, off High Arcal Drive**.

Please click here to view a Vodcast show the route that Year 8 learners should take when they arrive [Year 8 Entrance Video](#).

Below are the details of the Year 7 and 8 Mass testing schedule.

**Week 15<sup>th</sup> March - Return to school plan for Year 7 & 8:**

Year	Test 1*	Return*	Test 2	Test 3
8	18/03/21 (Thur)	19/03/21 (Fri)	22/03/21 (Mon)	25/03/21 (Thur)
7	19/03/21 (Fri)	22/03/21 (Mon)	23/03/21 (Tue)	26/03/21 (Fri)

Year 8: Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 9: Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	
8ESA	9.00	7CRM	9.00
8MCO	9.15	7MMA	9.15
8ETU	9.30	7MBH	9.30
8RKA	9.45	7JJO	9.45
8RSP	10.00	7ABD	10.00
8CHO	10.15	7LEC	10.15
8LDA	10.30	7SLL	10.30
8SPE	10.45	7KBA	10.45

\* **Important:** the dates outlined above for Test 1 are for Lateral Flow Testing only. On this day, learners should attend the academy for their test and return home to complete distance learning. Learners will return to school the next working day after Test 1. N.B. This is the **ONLY** test that they will return home after. Tests 2 and 3 will see learners stay in school, providing negative results are registered.

## Beacon Hill Academy

High Arcal Drive, Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 1BP  
T: 01902 677754 E: [info@beaconhillacademy.org.uk](mailto:info@beaconhillacademy.org.uk)  
W: [www.beaconhillacademy.org.uk](http://www.beaconhillacademy.org.uk)  
Principal: Sukhjot Dhani



### Mass testing:

The academy has worked alongside the Trust to prepare a detailed plan - outlined above to comply with the government request of mass testing all learners three-times before the commencement of the home testing programme. Learners will be able to return to face-to-face teaching following the first negative result.

When learners undertake their 1<sup>st</sup> test they must be present in school for their allocated time slot. The staggered testing schedule will enable us to comply with social distancing rules. Learners can attend testing in non-uniform but must also bring a mask and will enter via the main reception. Once registered in the hall, small groups will then be sent to the Drama Studio (our mass testing site). After the final sections of registration and testing, they will then immediately depart school via the main gate. The test result will be sent via a text message from the NHS once all processes have concluded. If you haven't received your child's results within 24 hours please contact school via [helpline@beaconhillacademy.org.uk](mailto:helpline@beaconhillacademy.org.uk). Please note for any learners who unfortunately have positive results we will contact parents/carers directly via telephone as soon as possible.

It is strongly encouraged that ALL learners take part in our testing process and in doing so enable the community of Beacon Hill Academy to play their vital part in the mass national testing program - thereby helping us overcome the pandemic. Please can you ensure you complete the consent form for testing ([click here](#)). Learners who have no prior consent will not be tested.

We have produced a vodcast of the process to support learners and this can be viewed here ([Lateral Flow Testing at Beacon Hill Academy](#)) and please visit the website for any support with FAQ or other lateral flow queries.

### VDE / Supporting Expectations

We continue to expect the highest standards of our learners. Learners must remain in their zones and the usual academy rules continue to apply. We are proud of the kind and respectful conduct that the significant majority of our learners have displayed since returning in September and we look forward to continuing to work with families to allow learners to thrive. However, any learner who intentionally compromises the health and safety of others in the revised operational environment will be dealt with in accordance with our behaviour policy.

### Uniform

**As per government guidance**, it is important that learners continue to attend BHA in their full uniform:

- **Full school uniform must be worn at all times.** The school uniform code clearly states the requirements of Beacon Hill Academy. We ask for your support in ensuring that uniform expectations are upheld and that learners do not contravene these stipulations.
- **On the day(s) your child has PE they should attend school in their full PE kit.** Learners must also wear their BHA blazer over the top of their PE kit. This will negate the need for learners to use changing rooms and again mitigates the risk of any cross contamination between year groups.



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Principal: Sukhjot Dhami



- Learners are to **wear formal, smart, black leather or patent shoes**. Learners are not permitted to wear trainers unless on a day they have PE – this can only be with corresponding full PE kit. Learners are not permitted to wear as school shoes, black leather trainers including those without markings. **School shoes should have no visible branding** (whether the branding is a different colour or black) including Nike 'ticks' or sporting logos. If the learner chooses to wear black ballet pumps, these should be plain black without any accessories, such as studs. **Boots are not acceptable** (a boot is defined as anything that touches or comes above the ankle bone).
- Jewellery is limited to one small ring of religious significance; one small plain metal stud in each ear lobe; no facial piercings are permitted e.g. nose studs. Stretcher style piercings are not permitted in any circumstances. Jewellery cannot be worn during PE lessons. If jewellery is worn for medical reasons, suitable medical evidence identifying the reasons for this must be provided to the school.
- Hair accessories such as bows, flowers and wide bands are not permitted, thin 'Alice bands' may be worn. Only natural hair dyes are permitted. Hair should be not shorter than grade 1 and no design lines/patterns are allowed. Plain black headscarf (if worn).
- Learners are not permitted to wear nail varnish and acrylic/false nails must be removed for school.
- Hoodies are not permitted in school.

Your Sincerely,

**Mr S Dhami**  
**Principal**



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