



# Plymouth High School for Girls

*"For life, not school, we learn"*



25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Students and Parents,

I hope you are well.

I wanted to update you on our thinking around the phased return of students to face to face teaching in school.

We have been asked by the Government to offer lateral flow testing to all students and staff before they return to school. PHSG and Thinking Schools Academy Trust believe this is the right approach and we encourage everyone in our community to take part.

You may know that if someone is a close contact of a positive case, that close contact will have to self isolate for 10 days, regardless of the outcome of lateral flow tests. We are keen to minimise the possibility of students becoming close contacts of a positive case before they return to face to face teaching, so we will phase the testing and subsequent return to the classroom.

We have been asked by Government to prioritise years 10 to 13 as we phase the return to face to face teaching. Remote learning will continue for students up until they are due in school for their test. On the day of the test, staff will set activities on Google classroom for students to do, but these will be reduced to take into account the fact that students are travelling to school for their test.

On Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> March, all lessons will consist of posted material on classroom and will not have a live element. This is to give staff the chance to meet and prepare for students returning to school.

I will write again with further details, but at the moment, we are planning for the following.

| Year Group | Test Day                         | Return to the school classroom   |
|------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 12 & 13    | Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March     | Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March     |
| 11         | Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March     | Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| 10         | Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March    | Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March |
| 7          | Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March  |
| 8          | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March  | Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| 9          | Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March    | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March    |

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We are eager to get students back in school as quickly and safely as possible. I thank you in advance for your understanding around the measures we have to put in place to ensure we minimise the likelihood of infection and thereby reduce the need for further isolation.

Very best wishes,



**Simon Underdown**  
Headteacher

