

Dear all Parents/Carers

We are delighted that, following the government's announcement, all pupils will be returning to school on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Myself and the team here at Rastrick are looking forward to opening our doors to all students and re-engaging with face to face teaching. Although staff and pupils have adapted extremely well to the home learning, the experience of being in school with peers and staff and the benefits that brings to everyone cannot be replaced.

In order to help keep everyone safe, the school has worked exceptionally hard to create a safe environment and we have followed all guidance from Public Health England, the DfE and the Department of Health and Social care.

I ask that you read the latest school risk assessment which is located on the school website. A notable difference is the compulsory wearing of face masks in class by both students and staff, unless there is a medical exemption. In addition, you have received a reopening guide which is relevant to your child's specific year group. Please spend time reading both and if you have any queries please contact the school.

In order to keep everyone safe and in line with the latest government guidelines, the school has started a rapid Covid testing programme. Students to whom parents/carers have consented will receive 3 tests over a ten-day period. To date this has gone very smoothly with a high uptake and the student's attitudes towards the testing programme has been excellent.

I would like to personally thank you for your support over the lock down period and look forward to continuing positive relationships.

Kind regards

Mat Williams, Head of School

