



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been a remarkable week, and we are thrilled to have welcomed back to school our pupils once again. Their successful return has been dependent upon the stalwart support of all More House families, and on behalf of the staff, I thank you for your efforts. I ask that you take a moment to read through the following notices, and share them with your son.

### **Home-testing arrangements**

For pupils in Year Seven or older, the mass asymptomatic COVID-19 testing programme has launched, and we have been incredibly impressed by the maturity and support of the boys. They deserve congratulations for their approach to an exercise which is fairly unpleasant, but which helps to reduce risk and inspire confidence in our community.

You will be aware that those pupils must complete three on-site tests before they are then provided with home-testing kits. Over the coming week, we expect to complete the second and third on-site tests for each year-group involved. Most pupils will then receive their home-testing kits during afternoon form-time on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Those kits must be taken home, and I ask parents to ensure their safe receipt.

If you expect your son to be absent from school on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March, please inform his tutor, and [schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk). It is likely we will seek to arrange for him to take home his testing kit prior to Thursday.

During term-time, your son should complete the COVID-19 test at home every Sunday and Wednesday evening (or Monday and Thursday mornings if you prefer). You may find the following links helpful: [secondary schools and colleges document sharing platform](#) and [instructions for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) self-testing](#).

**IMPORTANT:** It is vital that you report your home-test result, on each occasion, both to NHS Test & Trace: [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result) and to the school using the very simple online form accessed here: <https://forms.office.com/r/L1F5TkgeDs>

**If you fail to report to the school your son's test result, and we identify that your son is overdue for his test, we will expect to contact you.** However, we ask, please, that you do everything possible to reduce such administrative burden on the school by ensuring your son completes his tests regularly, and reports the results in a timely manner.

Should your son realise a positive result on his home-testing kit, please follow the instructions in the school's [MHS Pupils and Parents March 2021 COVID Guide](#).

## MORE HOUSE SCHOOL

Moons Hill, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 3AP

T: 01252 792 303 E: [schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk) W: [www.morehouseschool.co.uk](http://www.morehouseschool.co.uk)

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On a final note regarding testing, it would not have been possible to get all pupils back into school this week were it not for the incredible support we have experienced from a small army of parent and staff volunteers, who have given so very generously of their time to support our boys through the on-site testing centre. We are all deeply indebted to those volunteers for their exceptional contribution to our community. Thank you.

### **Arriving at school in the mornings**

We have installed a locked pedestrian gate between the school site and the steps up from the gravel car-park, at our lower entrance. This is designed to prevent unexpected or unvetted visitors from entering the site during the school day. The current structure is a temporary arrangement whilst we trial this new approach, and we expect to replace it with a permanent structure in the future.

Whilst this gate is kept open at normal school drop-off time – between 8am and 8.30am – the gate will be locked at 8.35am each morning, preventing access into the school site after that time.

IMPORTANT: This means that pupils who arrive at school after 8.35am must be dropped off in the Main Reception car-park, at the top of Moons Hill. They must not be dropped off in the gravel car-park at the lower entrance after 8.35am. If arriving after 8.35am, they must arrive at the Main Reception car-park, and report to the Main Reception staff before heading to their form-room. This is to ensure we know of their arrival.

**Please make sure anyone who drives your son to school knows of this new arrangement.**

### **Absence**

Please remember that planned pupil-absence should be reported to the school in advance, seeking authorisation.

For unplanned pupil-absence, a parent must contact the school as early as possible to report the absence, either emailing [schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@morehouseschool.co.uk), or by leaving a voicemail message on the school's dedicated absence-reporting service, accessed using the main switchboard telephone number: 01252 792303.

### **Don't forget...**

Please remind your son that he should bring with him, each day, a named water-bottle, a face-covering and plastic pocket in which to store it safely, and tissues. For a full list of items pupils should remember to bring, please refer to: [MHS Pupils and Parents March 2021 COVID Guide](#).

### **End of term**

We expect to broadcast an Easter Service on the last morning of term, in a similar arrangement to how we finished term before Christmas. We will invite all parents and other relatives to 'tune-in' to our Easter Service, expected to commence at 10.20am on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021. An access link will be provided nearer to the time.

Please note that the 26<sup>th</sup> March is a half-day, with school finishing at lunchtime.

### **General**

Thank you for reading through this list of notices. I hope the information is helpful, and I thank you for your continued, strong support of the school and of your sons. It is great to have them back in school.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Hetherington BA (Hons) MSc (Ed) QTS  
Headmaster