

Principal: Simon Warburton



Downham Road, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB6 2SH

t: 01353 667763

e: [office@elycollege.co.uk](mailto:office@elycollege.co.uk)

w: [www.elycollege.com](http://www.elycollege.com)

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Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware the government has recently released guidance for schools when they reopen for the new academic year which can be found [here](#). Many Year 7 students and parents will not be aware of how we have organised the school prior to your September start so it will all be fresh, new and exciting. We do realise for some it will be a little daunting and not made easier by the possibility that one of their first interactions with the school will be through a Lateral Flow Test (LFT). You do have to consent to these tests and the form can be found [here](#). We urge you to read the form carefully and assure yourself of the GDPR regulations governing your data. If you do not wish to consent your child will, of course, be welcomed into school along with all the rest of Year 7 on the first day of term as usual.

If you do consent, it would be helpful to complete the form ASAP which will help with our administration of the tests. We can assure you that the school is well practised in administering these LFT tests and in March this year we conducted over 3,200 student tests across the age range for 11 to 18 years old. We are mindful however that your child may be anxious about the test and you can put their mind at rest through reading and viewing material and videos [here](#) and instructions in different languages together with other support material [here](#).

The setting up again of a new test site in school to cater for 1,400 students is a complicated business and we are currently planning, staffing and resourcing the test centre. We will write to you during the summer holiday with further details of when we will be testing Year 7 and the special arrangements to ensure that your child feels comfortable and at ease with the process. I will be attending a headteachers' meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> August to finalise plans so will write to you to confirm these very soon after.

We are working hard to ensure that all children in Year 7 start their learning face to face in school classrooms on the term dates advertised on our website but, along with the rest of us, we are unsure about the Covid situation we will face at the start of the autumn term. We are mindful of the need to minimise any more disruption to your child's education but at the same time ensure that we are creating a safe space for all children.

If your child is attending our summer school, they do not need to be tested prior to starting. We are looking forward to meeting your child(ren) and welcoming them to Ely College. We are sure that it will be an exceptional experience.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Warburton', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Simon Warburton  
Principal

