

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL
Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



05 January 2021

Dear Parent, Carers and Pupils

In the words of Harold Wilson (1916-1995) the former Prime Minister, 'a week is a long time in politics!' This is a somewhat poignant quote following on from the schools newsletter to families yesterday and the Prime Minister's address to the nation last night.

As a result of this, the following updates may assist pupils and families with the current national lockdown.

Remote learning: Teachers will be providing a range of blended learning for pupils to do at home. Pupils will follow their normal timetable and use the log on details unique to them. A range of learning activities including 'live' teacher inputs will be used. Do please contact school if you are unsure of your child's log on protocols.

Year 11: All pupils in Year 11 will need to maintain their focus and continue to undertake and engage with their remote learning. This is very important for a number of reasons. The learning and knowledge will assist them as they move on to college and/or employment as well as give them the best opportunity with whatever GCSE assessment criteria is used this summer. Tomorrow afternoon, Gavin Williamson, the Minister for Education, will be updating parliament with intended plans for the 2021 examination series.

What we do know is our Year 11 pupils are an excellent year group and have the skills and qualities to be amongst the very best. School will continue to ensure pupils get the grades they deserve and that truly reflect their ability and potential. Do hang in there!

On Monday 11 January (PM) Year 11 pupils will be required to do their iMedia GCSE examination and on Wednesday 13 January (AM) pupils will be sitting their Child Development examination in school.

Pupils in school: Currently, school is open only to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers. Pupils are being taught lessons alongside pupils at home who are following the same timetable. The expectation is that the staff are available in school each day. However, the school may well re-consider the working approach if local/national rates of infection continue to rise. At this point, school staff will deliver lessons remotely for pupils from home and/or school and supervise pupils in school in dedicated ICT work areas to reduce pupil movement and cross contamination. School will be monitoring this situation closely.

CV19- Mass Flow Testing: Not all families will now be receiving consent forms for the new MFT tests mentioned yesterday. Instead, forms will be sent to families of all critical worker children and vulnerable pupils who are in school currently. From Monday next week, these pupils and school based colleagues will be tested twice weekly in school. As and when all pupils return to school, we will update families on the most current protocols and plans for school based testing at the that time. MFT is not compulsory.

Contact with families: The DfE have made it an expectation for school to contact all families if there is a concern with pupils not engaging with remote learning. Teachers in school will be monitoring this and will contact families as needed.

In addition, school will look to make contact with all families, in a similar way to that used in Lockdown 1. This will be centered around pupil safeguarding and wellbeing conversations. We are still a learning community and value your contact and support.

Do please contact school if you do have any questions, worries or concerns using the year managers – details as below:

Year Group	Year Manager	Email address
7	Anita Godfrey	Agodfrey@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk
8	Lisa Bennett	lisabennett@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk
9	Sarah Parton	sparton@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk
10	Annie Hudson	Annie.hudson@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk
11	Polly Bell	pbell@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk

Free school meals: Today we have contacted Wakefield Local Authority for an update on plans to support FSMs. Mrs J Wray will continue to support families with FSMs and will contact those families who are entitled to FSM already. Do please contact Mrs Wray (jwray@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk) if you have any questions here.

The school will continue to provide regular updates over the coming weeks. Again, thank you for your support, feedback and advice. It is valued.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely



T Griffiths
Headteacher

As a school, we all need to:

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| • Clean our hands more often using soap and water as well as the hand sanitiser found in all classrooms and social spaces. |
| • Have good respiratory hygiene habits: 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' . Use the tissues and bins provided. |
| • Follow the year group 'bubble' systems and stay in your dedicated areas as required. |
| • Not enter the 2-metre teaching areas as marked out in classrooms during lessons. |
| • Use the year group specific entrance/exit to enter and leave school. |
| • Follow instructions from all adults quickly and sensibly. |
| • Not attend school and follow public health advice if we have any symptoms of coronavirus. |