

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



4th January 2021

Dear Parent, Carers and Pupils

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas break and are looking forward to what 2021 has to offer us all.

During the holiday period, as you are aware, the Government amended its approach to the re-opening of secondary schools in England regarding the start of term today.

The Government has stated that all secondary schools are open from Monday 4th January to vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers only. Any other pupils, including those pupils in examination groups (Year 11) will work remotely.

From Monday 11th January, it is the Government's intention for pupils in examination groups (Year 11) to return to school. Followed on Monday 18th January by all other pupil/year groups.

Covid-19 National Testing Programme: Today in school key staff have been involved with online training sessions and meetings with Public Health Wakefield to begin the planning and implementation of pupil and staff testing.

At this stage details are brief and we will communicate plans for testing in more detail at a later stage.

In order to test pupils and staff in line with the DfE published guidance would involve the school in undertaking over 3500 tests each week. This is an ambitious and at this stage an unrealistic expectation.

We are currently working through a number of working models which will then involve a staged and progressive roll-out of testing. The school will therefore not be testing all pupils as they return into school.

In order to facilitate and help prepare for pupil testing, families will be receiving consent forms this week. Families will need to complete and return this to school if they want their child to be tested using LFT (Lateral Flow Tests). Please note that pupil testing is not compulsory and no pupil will be tested without the required consent of parents/carers.

In order to support the school, with the introduction of testing we are seeking the support of volunteers who have the experience, skills or interest in developing the testing workforce in school. If you are interested please email Sue Thompson (suethompson@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk).

In school, it remains very important that all pupils/staff continue to follow Covid-19 safe working protocols and high standards in relation to personal hygiene etc.

The school will continue to provide information and updates which will also take into account any additional changes that may be announced by the Government.

Thank you for your continued support and efforts. Do please contact school directly if you have any questions or concerns in relation to our Covid-19 planning and/or remote learning.

Best wishes for 2021

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. |