

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



14 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

The school continues to be very busy and we are slowly returning to more normal working as we respond to the advice and guidance we receive from the Department for Education (DfE), and also, Public Health England (PHE).

This week, we have had the national update position on the wearing of masks in school and the Covid-19 recovery plan. This was detailed by the government in the following document:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963491/COVID-19_Response_-_Spring_2021.pdf

We are now at Step 3 of the rollout which is detailed on page 36. The final rollout step is due on 21 June 2021.

Face Masks: From Monday 17 May 2021, it is no longer necessary for pupils or staff to wear face masks in lessons.

As a school, we have pupils/staff who will continue to wear face masks as they have an underlying medical condition and/or they choose to wear a mask. This is acceptable and down to the choice of individuals.

Pupils will still need to have their own mask for the following reasons:

- Travel to and from school on public transport
- Entry to shops in local area.
- For movement around the inside of school on narrow corridors and/or if they are in the same area as other year groups/pupils. They do not need to wear them outside.

The advice from the DfE does make it very clear that the wearing of a face masks in lessons and in school, as now, may be revised in response to dealing with localised outbreaks of Covid-19. This also includes variants of concern.

School will continue to have a supply of face masks available to pupils and we will maintain our current handwashing/sanitising protocols.

As a community, we need to be cautious around the ongoing status of the pandemic as well as show respect and courtesy towards others.

If you have any questions on our plans for mask wearing from next week, then do please contact the school.

Attendance: It has been far from normal over the last year or so and this has had an impact on overall school attendance. Whilst our school attendance is above that of other schools, both locally and nationally, it is still below where it would normally be. This is as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Staff in school continue to nudge and support families in getting their children into school. This is because attendance at school, every day, is so important as it does impact on progress and learning.

Attendance figures: September to May 2021:

Year Group	Attendance percentage
Year 7	96.96%
Year 8	95.55%
Year 9	94.45%
Year 10	94.93%
Year 11	93.95%
Overall whole school	95.22%

Eid: Happy Eid ul fitr 2021 to all our pupils and their families who are celebrating Eid this week. Warm wishes to you and your family. Eid Mubarak.

Sandal Rugby Club: It has been reported that groups of young people, some of whom are in our pupil year groups, but not all, are gathering behind the stands at the rugby club.

Unfortunately, they are being anti-social and leaving a lot of mess/litter. The school has a close working relationship with the rugby club and we both share our sports facilities and meeting rooms. As such, we can quickly identify who is causing issues and resolve the concerns for the better. If your child is out in the local area in the evenings, do please discuss the concerns as detailed above. Thank you.

Summer School: Letters have been emailed and posted to our Year 6 pupils, who will join the school in September. This letter details our plans for a summer school.

The school will also be holding a school-based Induction Day for our new Year 7 on Thursday 01 July. Letter to follow.

Richard Clough Non-Uniform Day: On Thursday 27 May, the school is holding a non-uniform day (£1 for pupils). Money raised will go to the British Heart Foundation as well as fund the memorial bench that the senior prefects have arranged. Richard, a teacher of maths, suffered a fatal heart attack whilst teaching in school on 27 May 2020. He was a highly regarded, trusted and valued colleague.

Year 11: Well done to our Year 11 for their hard work and focus. They really are doing their best. The Year 11 leavers' day will take place on Thursday 10 June. Details will be sent out separately. Be sure to maintain the focus and do enjoy and make the most of your remaining time at the school.

Extra-Curricular Activities: It really is good seeing a return to lunchtime and after-school clubs. This really benefits the pupils who get involved and our offer is a real strength of the school. We would encourage every pupil to get involved. Go for it! Please see information below:

Club/Activity	Year Group	Day	Time
LGBTQIA+	All	Thursday	Lunchtime
Art	10	Tuesday and Thursday	3.05-4.00pm (until half-term)
Art	9	Wednesday	3.05-4.00pm (until half-term)
Art	9	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	3.05-4.00pm (after half-term)
Book Club	7	Wednesday	3.05-4.00pm
Debate Club	All	Wednesday	4.00-5.00pm (Teams meeting)
PE	7	Thursday	3.05-4.30pm
PE	8	Tuesday	3.05-4.30pm
PE	9	Wednesday	3.05-4.30pm
PE	10 and 11	Friday	3.05-4.30pm
Gardening Club	7	Thursday	3.05-4.00pm
Hegarty Club	7	Friday	3.05-4.00pm
Hegarty Club	8	Thursday	3.05-4.00pm
Science Club	7 and 8	Wednesday	Lunchtime
Textile workshops	9 and 10	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday	3.05-4.00pm

Geography Field Trip (5/7/8/9 July): This year it is to Flamborough and Bridlington and involves 171 Year 10 pupils. They will investigate what natural processes have shaped our coastline and how humans are interfering with it.

Kettlethorpe Big Bang Competition: Run by the science department. Pupils are asked to design/innovate an idea on anything related to the field of STEM. The deadline for this is 09 June 2021.

Year 11 Photo: This takes place, in school, on Friday 28 May. Please make sure pupils are smart and presentable. The photograph will be taken in the sports hall.

Pupil News: Dance World Cup: Congratulations to Anya Lad, Y10, Darcey Hyett, Y8, Rebecca Wardell, Y8 and Clarissa Forster, Y8, who have been selected to compete in this event later this year. Good luck!

The school will continue to monitor and take account of advice and guidance on the rollout plan as it moves to Stage 4. The information will be shared by newsletter and via social media platforms.

Thank you for your continued support for the work of the school and have an enjoyable family weekend.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths
Headteacher