

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



08 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

Next week, we have made arrangements for each year group to have a rewards afternoon. These replace our normal end of year rewards trips to Alton Towers and Lightwater Valley. In the past, the rewards trips were for pupils with very good attendance and less than 10 planner concerns. This year, every pupil is invited to the year group event.

School has already made bookings for next year's rewards trips and all the coaches required have been secured. Hopefully, these trips will go ahead.

Next week, each year group has a set afternoon for their year group rewards afternoon:

- Monday 12 July: Year 7
- Tuesday 13 July: Year 8
- Thursday 15 July: Year 9
- Friday 16 July: Year 10

Each event will start at 12.20pm for the day of each year group's rewards afternoons. We would also suggest pupils come prepared for any possible rain showers. Pupils will be allowed to use their mobile phones for photographs on their reward's afternoons. Pupils are not allowed water pistols, which have been this summer's best buy from Asda! We hope all the pupils enjoy the afternoon they attend.

In the final week of term we will be holding rewards assemblies for each year group:

- Monday 19 July: Year 7
- Tuesday 20 July: Year 8
- Wednesday 21 July: Year 9
- Thursday 22 July: Year 10

The school will be sitting the year groups down for their assemblies in split year groups. This means half a year group at a time. These events will recognise the hard work and efforts of the pupil body over a challenging year in school.

From Monday 19 July the school will be responding to the 'Step 4' Covid-19 advice and guidance. This will mean:

- Pupils will no longer operate in year group bubbles. They will be free to mix with other year group pupils in school and on the recreation areas.
- Lunchtime arrangements will return to normal with food being served in the school hall, Upper Crust, Café de la Brede and the tuck shop. Again, pupils can go to the areas designated to them.
- Face masks will no longer be advised for pupils and staff in either classrooms or in communal areas.
- Any close contacts, for tracing and isolation will, from 'Step 4' be identified by the NHS. School will no longer contact families.
- From 16 August, children under the age of 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case. Instead, NHS Test and Trace will advise them to take a PCR test.
- Asymptomatic Testing: For the return to school in September, all pupils will have to do two on-site lateral flow device (LFD) tests. These need to be 3-5 days apart. School intends to start them, by invitation in the school's sports hall, in the last week of the holidays. Details to follow.

Pupils will then undertake twice weekly LFD tests at home until the end of September.

Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have Covid-19. If the PCR test is taken within two days of a positive LFD test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil/member of staff can return to school, as long as the individual does not have Covid-19 symptoms.

- The school will be updating the published risk assessments and outbreak management plans to take account of the 'Step 4' guidance and protocols.
- In order to assist staff in school with positive Covid-19 cases, can families please inform the school as soon as possible if your child is positive. This week we have had to deal

with information after several days. This causes additional stress for families of children who then have to self-isolate.

The other big issue is families not picking up or answering phonecalls from school, but who subsequently pick up when the child's number is used.

Our final area of support required is around families car sharing or families travelling to and from school in mixed bubbles with other families. Do please avoid this until the 'Step 4' green light from Monday 19 July.

Again, this week in school, it has been hard to manage with a high number of pupils being required to self-isolate and significant staff absence.

This week, so far, we have dealt with 22 positive pupil infections and 2 staff infections. This has required 280 pupils to self-isolate. Thank you for your support here. As a school, we fully understand and appreciate how disruptive this is for families and the impact it has on pupil learning.

It is important and appropriate that we share the 'Step 4' arrangements as this will support the school community in returning to more normal operation ahead of the summer break.

Do please contact school if you have any questions, worries or concerns. Together we will be able to resolve any issues.

On-Line Payments for School Meals: We offer online payment for school meals via PC, tablet or smartphone through our secure e-payments solution SIMS Pay.

Parents and carers of our upcoming year 7 intake will receive further information and activation emails in the next few days. If you have children with us already and have registered with SIMSPay, you will not need to register again. If you have older children with us already and are not registered with SIMSPay, you can request an activation code from school.

Young Musician of the Year: The year group heats have taken place this week, and the winners are: Joseph Holloway (Year 7), Tyler Warren (Y8), Joe Evans (Year 9) and Millie Robotham (Year 10). Well done and good luck in the final!

GCSEPod: Congratulations, we are now the northern heavyweight winners of the GCSEPod and will receive £150 worth of vouchers and a winner's shield. Well done everyone!

Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE): Due to the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, DofE has introduced a “Restricted Expedition” where candidates can undergo a two-day enrichment activity in school, following the criteria that would be set out in a standard expedition. We are pleased to announce that we are now able to offer this, and pupils have the option to complete their DofE Bronze Award in full on Monday 19 July - Tuesday 20 July 2021. A letter will be sent to pupils involved this week.

I am pretty sure that most of you will be involved in watching England play the final of the European Cup against Italy on Sunday. Be sure to enjoy the spectacle and have a safe and relaxing weekend.

Thank you for your continued support for the work of the school.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary:

- Friday 23 July 2021: School closes at 1.15pm for the summer break
- Monday 06 September 2021: INSET day – school closed to pupils
- Tuesday 07 September 2021: Year 7 induction day
- Wednesday 08 September 2021: Year 7 and 11 return to school
- Thursday 09 September 2021: School open to all year groups

PCR tests for Wakefield residents: Test sites are at the former Westgate Station car park (WF1 1XP) and Castleford Swimming Pool (WF10 5DX). These sites are open from 8am – 8pm and no appointment is required (although you can book online if you prefer).

Mobile testing units are located at various places in the district. For this week’s sites, please visit:

[Getting a COVID-19 test – Wakefield Council](#)

A reminder of guidance for meeting other people:

- Up to 6 people or two households can mix indoors.
- Up to 6 people or two households can stay overnight in somebody's home.
- Up to 30 people can mix outdoors.
- Hugging and friends and family is allowed, but please consider the vulnerability of people you hug and the people they are in contact with.

Please do remember the importance of hands, face, space, and where possible meet people outside your household outside, or in well-ventilated places. All adults over 18 are now able to book their Covid-19 vaccination, so please do book your appointment without delay, or look out for drop-in sessions being advertised.