

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



10 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

It really has been great to be back in school with all of our pupils. Very well done to everyone on such a positive start and for the sensible and calm manner in settling back with new routines.

We currently have 1654 pupils in school with 351 pupils in our new Year 7.

Very well done to Year 7 for making such a good impression over your first week in school. You really do look the part and the school community would like to wish you every success over the next five years at Kettlethorpe High School.

As a result of the school growing, we have been able to recruit new colleagues to support and teach our pupils. We would like to welcome these colleagues to our school and wish them every success in their various roles:

Mrs L Thompson: Assistant Headteacher	Mr N Whitworth: IT
Mr A Bennett: KS3 Achievement Leader	Mr K Dalton: Senior Science Technician
Miss E Bowers: Drama	Ms J Davies: Year Manager
Miss T Britton: PE	Mr J Lewton: Year Manager
Miss J Crowley: Geography	Mrs Lindsay Lancaster: Year Manager
Miss M Fairbrother: Science	Mrs H Bennett: SENCO
Miss L Hill: English	Miss F Eim: Learning Support Assistant
Mr J Hough: Maths	Miss J Lund: Learning Support Assistant
Miss I Lowen: MFL	Miss J Marson: Learning Support Assistant
Miss K Manock: Drama	Mrs M Joy: Cover Manager

Miss E Richards: Maths	
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Pupils and families will no doubt get to meet both new staff to the school and new subject teachers as we work through the year.

Uniform: Thank you to families for their support with pupil uniform. The pupils look smart and this helps the school in establishing high expectations and a strong sense of community.

New Reception Area: Over the summer break we opened up a new visitor reception area, which is the first building you can access when entering the site. Please report here when you need to come into school. Staff here will then 'sign' you in and get you to the location, or person, you need to see.

EduLink: By now parents of Year 7 pupils should have received their logon details to EduLink. EduLink allows parents to look at attendance, achievement, and behaviour records as well as viewing pupil timetables etc. EduLink one also allows you to report absences for your child. EduLink can be accessed by going to www.edulinkone.com or by downloading the EduLink One app from the app store on your phone.

Site Security: You may well have noticed that the school now has a full perimeter fence and electronic gates. The gates will be locked from 8.45am – 3.00pm. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff and visitors.

Parking: There are limited parking spaces next to the school reception area for visitors to school. These can be accessed at all times and are not locked or fenced off.

The 3G parking area is for staff only and/or for visitors who have business in the school. Please avoid dropping off/picking up in this area as this prevents staff getting into school to start their day's work.

School Streets: From Thursday 30 September, Kettlethorpe Hall Drive will be closed in the morning before school and again when the pupils leave at the end of the day. This is being introduced by the council to protect and safeguard our pupils. The road will be blocked off.

The council have introduced a 'Park and Stride' initiative to encourage families to drop off their children away from school so that the pupils can then walk in with their friends and family. This will assist in reducing the car congestion issues that we often have, especially at the end of the day.

As families, do please discuss how these changes will impact on your child's journey to school.

School Streets can be contacted at: schoolstreets@wakefield.gov.uk

Bikes: It is always good to see pupils riding to and from school. Do remember to bring a suitable lock and to wear a helmet. Be careful on your journey and do not ride pavements or without due consideration to other road users. Stay safe.

Exam Results: Very well done to our Year 11 pupils from the academic year 2020-21. We saw pupils getting excellent results that reflected their hard work and efforts whilst at the school. All the very best with your move to Post-16 and/or employment. We wish you well.

To our current Year 11, do think hard about where you want to be this time next year. Do have a plan and a goal as this will help to motivate you. You have a busy year ahead of you. Enjoy it and give it your very best effort. Go for it!

To all our other pupils in school; do continue the hard work and show yourselves, your teachers/families what you are truly capable of doing. Everyone here is working so that you can enjoy being at school and get the grades you are capable of. Work hard and get to school every day. Make it count for you!

Covid-19: Thank you for your support with the lateral flow testing as we made our return to school. Whilst it feels like school and society is returning to normal, we do need to take account of and consider the risks that Covid-19 still presents.

In school, we have updated our risk assessment and this is published on the school's website. We continue to ventilate and have hygiene stations in classrooms and around the school. We have not returned to the use of school bells between lessons as this helps to control the exit and arrival to lessons by reducing busy corridors.

Do please continue to follow the advice and guidance and the school will provide any updates or changes to government policy. For example, pupils and vaccines as currently being reviewed and reported on in the press.

If you do have any worries or concerns about Covid-19 or any aspect of what the school does, then do please contact us. We are all in this together.

Finally, as I work into my twentieth year as a school headteacher, it really is a joy and a privilege to work at Kettlethorpe High School. Our pupils are wonderful and the staff work incredibly hard. This creates a learning environment that is second to none.

I have every confidence that the school will strive forward so that we leave behind the issues we all faced, and dealt with, over the last 18 months.

Thank you for your continued support. Now let us enjoy the new academic year.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths

Headteacher

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean our hands more often using soap and water as well as the hand sanitiser found in all classrooms and social spaces. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have good respiratory hygiene habits: 'Catch it, bin it, kill it'. Use the tissues and bins provided. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow instructions from all adults quickly and sensibly. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not attend school and follow public health advice if we have any symptoms of coronavirus. |