

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



17 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

It certainly has been a busy and productive week in school, despite a very wet day on Tuesday. The pupils are now settled into their new routines and are responding well to the learning on offer from their teachers.

Covid-19 Update: We are still seeing pupils who are having to leave school or stay at home because they have caught Covid-19. Fortunately, the numbers are a lot lower than over the summer term. Do please continue with the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing as this helps reduce the risk and spread of Covid-19.

Yesterday, we received the following advice and guidance from the NHS that provides information on the Covid-19 vaccination for eligible children and young people aged 12 to 15:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-children-and-young-people-guidance-for-schools>

Over the summer break, and during the first week of this term, staff in school met with Wakefield Public Health to look at how to best operate a pupil vaccination process on site. We are currently waiting for finalised details which we will share with families at the earliest opportunity.

Safeguarding Update: Please be aware that our school site is now fully fenced with an electronic gate in place to access on-site parking. For a number of years the school has worked to have a secure site, like most other schools/academies, despite having to face escalated costs as a result of planning permission concerns.

All visitors need to sign in at the school reception. This is because the site is not open to the public and we need to know who is on the school site and why. Any visitor, parent or carer who is unwilling to sign in will not be allowed site access. Thank you for your support with this protocol.

Smoking/Vaping: We have had to deal with a number of pupils who feel it is acceptable to have cigarettes and/or vapes on their person. It is not acceptable or legal and the school does not accept that it is for personal use off-site etc. The school's response continues to be

confiscation and disposal, regardless of cost/ownership in line with Section 91 of the 2006 Education/Inspections Act. Please be warned!

Year 7 Reading: All our new pupils have been given a book so they can have a reminder in future years about going to our school. These books will be read once a week with subject teachers leading the reading and discussion questions. The reading period does change so that we do not lose the same subject each week. Next week, pupils will read their books on Monday 20th, period 5.

As a learning community we all recognise the importance and worth of being able to read well and also read for fun. Enjoy your reading Year 7!

Fundraising: The school has received a thank you letter from the British Heart Foundation for the £1425.00 that the school community raised last term on our Richard Clough remembrance day. An excellent effort.

Over this academic year and following discussion with the pupil parliament members, the school will continue to support Children in Need on Friday 12 November and the blood charities dkms.org and anthonyolan.org.

The school teaching body has currently lost the services of Mrs E Leeming as a result of a very quick diagnosis of leukaemia. As a result of this, she has had to undergo chemotherapy and will not be with us for this academic year. We miss her warm personality, excellent teaching and would like to wish her and her family our best wishes at this challenging time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely
T Griffiths
Headteacher

<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.