



Dear Parents and Carers

I suspect that this may be the longest period I have gone without contacting you for quite some time. Hopefully, that is a sign that school is settling down into some sort of routine. There are a number of things that I want to provide you with a quick update on.

Lateral Flow Tests

Thank you for what you are doing to ensure that your children maintain a routine of testing on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. I know that this is a challenge as I have my own household of teenagers to deal with as well. However, it does make a difference and it is helping keep school open and safe for all students. Please do remember to report test results using [test register](#). The DfE have asked me to share a [blog](#) with you setting out why it is crucial that we all continue to report test results.

Daily Contact Testing Study

Earlier this week you should have received a letter outlining that we are participating in the Department for Education's pilot on Daily Contact Testing. If you missed this you can [download the letter here](#). We have been identified as part of the control group. In practice this means that during the trial staff and students who are identified as close contacts of someone with a confirmed case will:

- still, be required to self-isolate in line with government guidance
- be asked to consent to taking two PCR tests at home during the self-isolation and return these to Public Health England

Participation in the study is voluntary and will only include staff and students who consent to do so. Currently, every time we have a positive case in school students who are identified as close contacts have to self-isolate for 10 days. This study is intended to explore if there is a safe alternative to this that schools can use in the future. I would be grateful if you could look at this and decide if you are happy for your child to participate in the study as is set out in the letter above.

School Gates

You will know that the school gates are now locked at 8:45 am so that students can arrive in time for their tutor session to start at 8:50 am. I know that so many of you have reorganised your mornings to make sure that your children do arrive on time. Thank you. Students who are regularly late will receive a sanction in line with the behaviour policy.

Year 11 students joining our Sixth Form.

As you will imagine, we are processing a large number of applications from students who want to join our Sixth Form in September. If you have received an offer from us but haven't yet responded, then it is important that they do so. They can confirm their place by emailing

j.booth@kimberleyschool.co.uk. We will be writing to students and parents soon to set out what the arrangements for induction/transition will be in the second half of the summer term.

Year 11 and Year 13 Awarding Grades

We have pulled together all of the information that parents, carers and students need on the process for awarding grades in 2021 onto [one page of the school website](#). This includes all of the information that we have shared so far and it has recently been updated with our “centre policy” which sets out the approach that we will follow in awarding grades this year. Later in the term, we will publish more information on how results days and appeals will work. Hopefully, this will mean that you know that there is one place where you can access all the information you need about the process.

I am incredibly impressed with how students taking qualifications this year are responding to the challenges that they face. Please do remember that our pastoral teams are here if you think your son or daughter needs any support or if there are personal circumstances that you think we need to be aware of at the moment.

Personal Development Curriculum

In January, we launched our new Personal Development curriculum for Years 7 to 11. This curriculum is taught by tutors every week on Tuesday, Period 3. This new curriculum ensures that we are meeting all of the statutory requirements for teaching Personal Development. As part of Personal Development, we are teaching the statutory RSE curriculum. The school’s policy on this is available on our school website.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Take Care

Andrew George

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A George', written in a cursive style.

Head Teacher