



## Dear Parents and Carers

Yesterday afternoon the government published information for schools on how the Living with Covid plan will work from the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### The highlights of the guidance are that:

- Free testing for the general public (including staff and students at schools) ends on 1<sup>st</sup> April
- School is still not able to distribute any tests to students or staff
- There are significant changes in the guidance about students staying at home:
  - o "Students who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend"
  - o "Students with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days, which is when they are most infectious"

### School control measures

- The government has also withdrawn most of the specific Covid-19 guidance for education settings. Our challenge at Kimberley is to continue to return school to as normal as possible whilst at the same time not losing sight of the measures that we can take to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus in school. At Kimberley this will mean that we will
  - o continue to use the one-way system but will review how this is working in the summer term;
  - o keep the expectation in place that classrooms and workspaces are well ventilated.
  - o keep stocks of hand sanitiser high across the school. Students will still be able to sanitise their hands as they enter a classroom
  - o withdraw the expectation that students sit side by side and facing the front in the majority of lessons.
  - o withdraw the expectation that staff wipe desks down at least once a day.
  - o keep encouraging students to sanitise hands and avoid touching their face if they are using shared equipment
  - o give students in IT classrooms the option of wiping keyboards and mice at the start of the lesson.

### Remote Curriculum

- If parents inform us that a student has tested positive and is staying at home for 3 days, then we will set work through the [usual route](#).
- If a student is absent because they are unwell but have not tested positive, then there is no expectation that teachers will set work via the remote curriculum. The student needs to return to school as soon as they are well enough to.

### Attendance Matters

Somehow, through all of this, we need to continue the work that parents and school are doing to ensure that all students attend school when they are well enough to do so. Absence from school has

had a negative impact on many students' social and academic development and it is more important than ever that we aim for all students' attendance to be at least 95%. Please do remember that we have pulled together information for [students](#) and [parents](#) on attendance which you can access using these links. You will also find the details of who you need to contact if you need support or advice in helping your child improve their attendance.

As ever, all the information about the [control measures in school](#) are available on our website. Thank you for your continued support throughout another challenging time. I hope you are able to enjoy some time with family and friends during the Easter break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. George'.

Andrew George  
Head Teacher