



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are enjoying hearing less from me than usual at the moment! Perhaps this is a sign of the slow return to normality.

It feels good to be able to write to you at the end of a half-term where there has only be one incidence where we have had to send students home because of a positive case in school. I fully recognise the part you are playing in helping us keep school safe for students, staff and their families. I do hope that we can all continue to work together successfully for the remainder of this year.

### **Covid Measures:**

- Please continue to keep the **routines of testing at home during the half-term break**. Testing on the Sunday evening before we return to school will play a key part in keeping school safe.
- If your child does **test positive for Covid-19 during the half-term holiday**, then we are required to ask you to report this to us. You can do so using this [online form](#). This does also apply to Year 11 and Year 13 students
- I have been asked to share this [letter from Nottingham Public Health on vaccinations](#) with all parents and carers

### **Changes to the Shape of the School Day:**

We are making some changes to the staggered timings we have in place for break, lunch and the end of school for some year groups after half term:

#### **Year 9:**

- Will now have their break and lunchtime in the school canteen and can use the ball courts as an outside space
- Will now finish school at 3:05 pm instead of 3:00 pm

#### **Year 8:**

- Break time will now run from 11:05 to 11:20 am. This means period 2 will no longer be a split lesson
- Lunchtime will now run from 1:30 to 2:00 pm. This means period 4 will no longer be a split lesson
- School will end at 3:00 pm instead of 2:55 pm

**Year 7** will now finish school at 2:55 pm instead of 2:50 pm

Arrangements for **Year 10 and 12** remain unchanged.

## Detentions

I do need to tell you of a change we are making to our detention system. The staggered timings for the school day that have been in place during the year have presented us with some challenges in administering a detention system efficiently and effectively. Any detention system in a school is important in reinforcing the high standards and expectations parents and carers quite rightly expect us to have in place. All students have a right to attend a calm, safe and purposeful school and a detention system plays a key role in achieving this.

Therefore, following half term our pastoral teams are introducing a centralised detention system that will run after school for up to 1 hour. Students will be placed in this detention for not reaching the school's expectations on matters such as punctuality, uniform, respect, and conduct outside of lessons. Class teachers will continue to set detentions for poor behaviour in lessons.

We are lucky at Kimberley in that the vast majority of our parents and carers understand the importance of supporting in using sanctions to improve behaviour. This partnership is crucial in helping your child flourish at school. However, on some occasions, we do encounter parents and carers who are not supportive and so it may be helpful to remind everyone of our [responsibilities and power with respect to behaviour and discipline](#)

- Schools have legal powers to place pupils in detention
- Where detention is outside school hours there is no requirement to give 24 hours' notice to parents
- Parental consent is not required for detentions
- The school must act reasonably when imposing a detention. In addition, when deciding the timing, the school should consider whether suitable travel arrangements can be made by the parent for the pupil. It does not matter if making these arrangements is inconvenient

Although there is no legal requirement for us to give 24 hours' notice to parents for an after school detention we will continue to try to do so. However, if we are unable to give 24 hours' notice then the detention will go ahead. If parents do not support the detention and a child does not attend then this will be escalated to sanctions as set out in our [Behaviour Management Policy](#).

## Finally

Please remember that **June 7<sup>th</sup> is an INSET Day**. Students return to school on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you so much for your continued support. I am so proud that we have continued to work together to minimise the disruption to education in this community. I hope you get to spend some quality time with your family and friends over the bank holiday weekend.

Yours faithfully



Andrew George  
Head Teacher