



Dear Parents and Carers

Returning to School on Monday 8th March.

As we get nearer to the point where students will be back in school I thought it would be helpful to set out some reminders and information that will help you make sure students are prepared. Please do also watch the welcome back [video from Mr Knapczyk](#) with your children before they return to school.

School Control Measures

- Students must wear face coverings on buses, all students should avoid mixing with other year groups on their journey to school
- To avoid having to share, students should bring their own equipment and water bottle to school.
- Tutor time starts at 8:50 am. The school gates will close at 8:45 am. This is a new measure. Students who report to school after this will have to report to the late gate by the leisure centre gates
- When students arrive in the morning they should report straight to their tutor room, they must not linger on the site
- Students must follow the one-way system
- Students must sanitise their hands as they enter each classroom or teaching space
- Students must exercise good respiratory hygiene - "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it"
- Students must wear a face covering, unless they are exempt and have been issued with a lanyard, including when they are in lessons.
- Windows will be open across the site to aid ventilation, students must not close the windows
- Students must stay in their designated areas and toilets at break and lunch times
- Students must maintain social distance from each other and staff where it is possible
- The canteen will fully reopen; students must bring their contactless card to school
- Students should wear full school uniform including, if they wish, a plain black V-neck jumper under their blazer
- At the end of the day, students should leave the school site immediately and avoid mixing with students from other year groups
- Full details of all of the [Covid Control Measures](#) are on our website, they include full details of expectations around face coverings
- Sanctions will be put in place for students who deliberately or repeatedly breach control measures and put others at risk.

Lateral Flow Testing – March 7th

- We now have consent for over 1000 students to do the Lateral Flow Test on Sunday 7th March and parents will shortly receive separate communication for the time of the appointment.
 - students should report to the double gates clearly signposted on the left-hand side of the leisure centre car park at the allotted time
 - To avoid congestion, please avoid driving onto the site and park elsewhere in Kimberley
 - Students should wear a face covering whilst on the school site, apart from when they are taking the test

- Only students taking the test can enter the school site, parents/carers should not do so
- If a student is highly anxious an adult can join them on-site, the adult will not be able to enter the test centre but can queue with them and wait outside for them
- Following the test, students must leave the site and return home immediately
- We will contact you with the results as soon as possible afterwards. If your child does get a positive test result, we will contact you by phone.
- Watching this [video](#) and reading these [instructions](#) will help students prepare
- Students should not report for a test if consent wasn't given OR they should be self-isolating
- Please remember that I had asked parents to have contingency plans in place in the event that we are unable to complete all the testing on the 7th March. If this happens we will continue with testing on the 8th March and school will reopen on the 9th March.
- In line with expectations of the government, students who do not take the test will also be able to return to school when it reopens to all students.

Year 11 and Year 13 Grades

- A video message to Year 11 and Year 13 students was shared with students and parents yesterday and can be viewed by accessing [Student Notices](#)

School attendance

Parents and Carers must ensure that students do not attend school

- If they have one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- a member of their household (including someone in their [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- they are required to [quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area](#)
- they have had a recent positive test

Otherwise, attendance is mandatory for all pupils from Monday 8th March. The only exemptions to this statement are those individual students who have been confirmed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV); where the advice is they should continue to shield and stay at home as much as possible until further notice. If your child has been identified as CEV you should have already been provided with the medical evidence to suggest/support this. If this applies to your son or daughter please could you contact Mr Knapczyk, so arrangements can be made (d.knapczyk@kimberleyschool.co.uk). If you have not received this information, the expectation is your child will return to school on Monday 8th March.

INSET Day 15th March

- A reminder that the INSET Day on the 15th March is postponed and we will confirm the date of the rearranged INSET Day as soon as possible. This means that school will be open to all students on the 15th March

Next Steps with Lateral Flow Testing

Following the test on the 7th March:

- Students will have two further opportunities to take the test in school. We are planning to do the second test on the 9th and 10th March; and the third test on the 15th and 16th March. This will mean that there is some disruption to lessons.
- Following this, they will be able to undertake twice weekly tests at home. We will provide the kits for students and more information on this nearer the time.
- The government have announced that students' households will also have access to free twice weekly testing at home. Unfortunately, we are not able to distribute these kits to you. I have set out the full details of this process and how you can access the test kits at the end of this letter.

Finally, thank you so much for everyone who is supporting us by getting so many students tested before they return to school. This is helping make school a safer place for students, staff and their families. In the Autumn Term, we significantly exceeded all national averages for attendance. I firmly believe that this was because school and home worked in partnership to do all we could to keep each other safe. As we return to school it is important that we do not become complacent; our priority is to get students back into school and to keep them here – we can only do this if we all continue to work together.

Yours faithfully,



Andrew George
Head Teacher

Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school staff and pupils

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Get a test through your employer

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator. You may need to book an appointment. [Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site.](#)

Collect test kits

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. Most collection points are open from 1.30 pm to 7 pm. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment. Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#).

Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#)

What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart) and report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test. You can [Report your test result online](#) or by calling 119. If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended