



The King's CE School
Regis Road
Tettenhall
Wolverhampton
WV6 8XG

Principal: James Ludlow

25th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your family and friends are all keeping well and managing to stay fit and healthy in these very challenging times. Thank you for all the support you have given as parents and carers, to ensure that successful home learning has been taking place. I know this will not have been an easy situation for anyone. I am sure we are all reassured by the apparent success of the vaccination programme and the reducing rates of infection and illness that we are seeing. There is room for cautious optimism and light at the end of the tunnel. As a school community, we continue to pray for all those who are affected by the global pandemic.

We are really pleased that the government has now confirmed the full re-opening of schools from Monday 8th March and are fully aware that this must be managed very carefully to ensure that the highest possible safety measures are in place. For this to happen, the support of the whole school community is essential. Below is a detailed plan for when each year group will return to school and the dates for their pre-return Covid-19 tests. **The Covid-19 tests are optional however we would like as many pupils and staff as possible to take a test so that any asymptomatic cases of the virus can be picked up.** We have recently sent out a letter to you asking for you to consent to the test for your child and would be grateful if this could be completed by everyone Wednesday 3rd March at the latest.

Before returning to school for normal lessons, each pupil will be given an appointment date and time for their Covid-19 test. Pupils will need to arrive at school on time for that appointment and will be met by a member of staff and directed to our testing station. The whole process will take under an hour and this includes the waiting time for test results. Once a pupil has taken their test and received their result, they will be asked to return home to continue with their online learning. If the test result is positive then we will call you to discuss the next steps, this will include you booking a PCR test for your child to confirm the positive result. Pupils will not be taught via live lessons on the day of their first test appointment. The table below sets out the programme for the week and an individual letter will be sent from your child's Head of Year, personalising this plan for each year group.

| Friday 5 th March | Staff testing and training day – no lessons on this day | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Testing | Home testing | Face to Face lessons in school | Remote learning at home |
| Monday 8 th March | Yr 11 and 13 in school for testing only and by appointment | | | Yr 11 and 13 set work on class charts All other year's lessons on TEAMS |
| Tuesday 9 th March | Yr 10 and 12 in school for testing only and by appointment | | Yr 11 and 13 | Yr 10 and 12 set work on class charts Yrs 7 – 9 lessons on TEAMS |

Telephone: 01902 558333 Email: admin@kingswolverhampton.co.uk
twitter.com/kingsschoolwlv - facebook.com/kingswolverhampton



| | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Wednesday | Yr 9 in school for testing only and by appointment | | Yrs 10, 11, 12 and 13 | Yr 9 set work on class charts Yrs 7&8 on TEAMS |
| Thursday 11th March | Yr 7 in school for testing only and by appointment then Re-test Yr 11 and 13 from lessons (2) | | Yrs 9 – 13 | Yr 7 set work on class charts Yr 8 lesson on TEAMS |
| Friday 12th March | Yr 8 in school for testing only and by appointment then Re-test Yr 10 and 12 from lessons (2) | | Yrs 7, 9 – 13 | Yr 8 set work on class charts |
| Monday 15th March | Re-test Yr 9 from lessons (2) | | All year groups | |
| Tuesday 16th March | Re-test Yr 7 (2) Re-test 11 and 13 from lessons (3) | Yr 11 and 13 issued home tests | | |
| Wednesday 17th March | Re-test Yrs 8 (2) Re-test 10 and 12 from lessons (3) | Yr 10 and 12 issued home test | | |
| Thursday 18th March | Re-test Yr 9 from lessons (3) | Yr 9 issued home tests | | |
| Friday 19th March | Re-test Yr 7 from lessons (3) | Yr 7 issued home tests | | |
| Monday 22nd March | Re-test Yr 8 from lesson (3) | Yr 8 issued home tests | | |

The government's aim is that all pupils will be tested 3 times at school with a gap of 3-5 days between each test. The plan above sets out how that will happen. After the initial test, pupils will be withdrawn from lessons on a tight rota system so that they can have their second and third tests without it impacting too much on their lesson time. After the third test, pupils will then be issued with a home testing kit for future use.

In other news, I am writing to inform you that I will be leaving my position as Principal at The King's at the end of the spring term in order to take up a post as Principal in a large academy in Walsall. Having been the Principal at The King's for 5 years now, this is a good time for me to move on to a new challenge and I have been offered an opportunity which is too good to miss. Whilst I am personally excited about my new role, I am also very sad to be leaving The King's. It is a great school with fabulous pupils, a strong ethos, values and sense of community, that I have grown to love in my time as Principal. In fact, it is true to say that I absolutely love coming to work every day – because of the delightful

people, young and not so young, that I work with and because of the appreciation and support that has been offered to me by all members of the school community, not least you as parents and carers.

I am delighted to inform you that the school's governors have appointed Miss Langley as acting Principal from the summer term. Miss Langley is a superb leader and has played a massive role in the transformation of The King's in the 4 years that she has been with us and is the ideal person to take over from me. Being able to hand things over to her ready for the summer term will allow a really smooth transition. I am very confident that one of the things I am leaving behind at The King's is a strength of leadership at all levels in the school and a body of pupils and staff who know the school's vision, mission and direction and that the outstanding work of the school over recent years will continue long into the future.

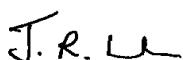
Despite my imminent departure to take up this new opportunity, I am confident that the huge improvements that have been made at The King's over the past 5 years will continue long into the future. As you know, our examination results have improved dramatically since 2016 and we have become the most improved secondary school in Wolverhampton, our 6th form is rated as Good by Ofsted and our students have gained places at some of the most prestigious universities in the country. Final plans are being made for us to join a Multi-Academy Trust linked to the Lichfield Diocese and we are hopeful that this will allow an injection of funding needed to repair our school building and bring benefits to our pupils through working closely with schools that have a similar ethos and values. Our school is growing in size and popularity and we have become a flagship school for careers education both locally and nationally. These are just some of the school's many achievements and reasons to be positive. I am confident that the team of staff in place will ensure that the excellent work continues and the whole school community will build on what has been achieved. Most of all, I hope that my legacy will be the sense of belief instilled into everyone connected with The King's, that all members of the school community can aspire, believe and achieve beyond what they ever thought was possible, through working together with one another in a unified, respectful and harmonious community.

Whilst being very sad about leaving The King's, I will take great pleasure in watching the continued success of the school as it continues on its journey towards becoming outstanding. I will greatly miss spending time and interacting with the pupils and students who are a delight to work with an absolute credit to you, their parents and carers.

Your child's Head of Year will be in touch with further details about the return to school from 8th March. We will also be writing to you to set out details of the arrangements for awarding GCSE, A Level and BTEC grades this summer. The detailed guidance from the government has been released today and we will be looking at what it means for our plans over the coming months. Just a reminder that **Friday 5th March is a Teacher Training Day and therefore there will be no teaching or work set on Class Charts on this day.**

In the meantime, we will be keeping our focus on ensuring that everyone in the school community is fully supported during this, hopefully final, period of 'lock-down.' I think it's fair to say that all of the staff in school are really looking forward to a return to normality as soon as it is safe for this to happen, I am sure you share the same sentiment. Thank you for everything you are doing to support your child with their home-learning and I look forward to seeing you, in person, very soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr J. Ludlow
Principal