

22nd December 2020

Dear parent / guardians,

I apologise for contacting you again during the Christmas holiday but with the picture around Covid infection rates changing I felt that I needed to do so. If we as a school are going to make best use of the phased return of students from January to keep all staff, students and families safe I need to start the process of asking your permission for testing in January now.

If the tests arrive at school on the 4th of January, we can begin testing staff on that day if they wish to participate. This can follow with years 11, 12 and 13 on the 5th of January with parental permission.

As a school we will organise a system of testing which will work as below. Testing will be carried out by a team of staff from Kingsmead who will be trained on Monday the 4th of January. They will be supported by parents of children at the school who have volunteered to support with the process and who will always operate under stringent internal safeguarding protocols including being supported by Kingsmead staff. Your Childs progress leader will be present throughout the testing of their year group to offer reassurance.

<u>Test 1</u>

Monday 4th January – Staff tested during training day test 1

Tuesday – 5th January – Years 11, 12 and 13 test 1

Wednesday 6th January – Year 10 and 9 test 1

Thursday 7th January – Year 8 test 1

Friday 8th January – Year 7 test 1 and staff repeat test

<u>Test 2</u>

Monday 11th January – Year 11, 12 and 13 repeat test.

Tuesday 12th January – Year 10 and 9 repeat test.

Wednesday 13th January – Year 8 repeat test.

Thursday 14th January – Year 7 repeat test.

As you can imagine this is a huge logistical undertaking which can only happen with your support. The first step is for you to read the information shared with you from the government and return a permission slip to the email address given below for your child. If you have more than one child then you will have to repeat this for each child.



If your child is in year 11, 12 or 13 email the permission slip to: <u>CovidTestConsent11to13@kingsmeadschool.net</u>

If your child is in year 10 or 9 email the permission slip to: <u>CovidTestConsent9or10@kingsmeadschool.net</u>

If your child is in year 8 email the permission slip to: <u>CovidTestConsent8@kingsmeadschool.net</u>

If your child is in year 7 email the permission slip to: <u>CovidTestConsent7@kingsmeadschool.net</u>

If you give permission, then your child will take part in both the first and second rapid test supplied free to us as a school by the government. This will allow us to identify A-symptomatic staff and children and help reduce the spread of infection in our area.

If we do not receive an email from you giving permission by the 4th of January at 8.30 am then we will assume that you do not want your child to take part in the testing process and they will not be invited to participate on their year groups testing day. If you do want them to take part but have not been able to return the slip by email for any reason then please call school on the 4th of January to let us know and we will help you to complete the form in a different way. This is entirely a decision that you and your child must take together.

Best Wishes for a safe and Happy Christmas

Yours sincerely

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Maria Mincher Head of School