



# Kingsmead School



A PARTNER ACADEMY IN JOHN TAYLOR MAT

Head of School: Mrs M Mincher, Bsc, NPQH

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21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

Dear all,

Thank you for your incredible support and kind words during what has been an extremely difficult 12 months for everyone. We have been overwhelmed by the lovely messages from parents, carers and students in these last few weeks.

I am writing to update you on several issues including how we will oversee the start of the new term.

## **Lateral Flow Testing**

We will be following government advice for September to test students twice before the start of term. If you have already given your permission for this and are happy for your child to be tested in September, you do not need to do anything further. If you wish to withdraw permission, please put this in writing and send to the [office@kingsmeadschool.net](mailto:office@kingsmeadschool.net) email address.

We have shared the electronic consent form with all parents again, should you wish to now give your permission for testing, if you did not do so previously.

## **Q When will my child be offered the opportunity to undergo lateral flow testing?**

*A: The schedule of testing will start on the staff training days and the second test will be delivered as part of the rescheduled activity days in September.*

This will help us to keep our promise to give students a reward for all of their hard work at the end of the year as well as test all students twice before they return to classroom teaching.

## **Years 8 – 13**

All students in Years 8 to 13 will be tested twice over the course of five days. The schedule for the first round of testing is below.

Students need to check their emails for an appointment slot:



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	Session 1	Session 2
<b>Wednesday 1st September</b>	Year 10 - Test 1 (AM)	Year 11 - Test 1 (PM)
<b>Thursday 2nd September</b>	Year 8 - Test 1 (AM)	Year 9 - Test 1 (PM)
<b>Friday 3rd September</b>	-	Sixth Form - Test 1 (PM)

The second round of testing has been organised to coincide with the sports fixtures during activities week, which will run from Monday 6th September to Wednesday 8th September. Again, there will be two testing sessions per day, with one year group being tested on each day.

The school day will be 8:30am - 2:30 pm, which is the new school day from September unless students are in Year 11.

Unlike the first round of testing, students will be tested by **tutor group during the session** – they will not receive an individual appointment time.

Each tutor group will be allocated a 15-minute testing window and the member of staff supervising the sport fixtures will escort them to and from the testing venue. The schedule for the second round of testing is:

	Session 1	Session 2
<b>Monday 6th September</b>	Year 10 - Test 2 (AM)	Year 11 - Test 2 (PM)
<b>Tuesday 7th September</b>	Year 8 - Test 2 (AM)	Year 9 - Test 2 (PM)
<b>Wednesday 8th September</b>	-	Sixth Form - Test 2 (PM)

## Year 7

New Year 7s are having a staggered start to the year and will attend school for the first time on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> September until Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September, for a fun packed induction week.

**Q: Why are new Year 7 students not invited to the 3 days of activity week?**



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The Year 7 cohort have already been offered a full week of activities during the Summer and uptake for this has been nearly 100%. The staggered start for students allows us to test all students before the start of term and is something that the government have allowed schools to do. Activity week is an experience that the other students missed out on when the school had to shut early in July 2021. New Year 7 students will also be able to experience activities week in July 2022.

The new Year 7 students will be tested in tutor groups for the first time on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> September, during periods 2 (9:45 to 10:45) and 3 (11:00 to 12:00).

The year group will be tested for the second time on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, during periods 1 (8:45 to 9:45) and 2 (9:45 to 10:45).

## Consent

If parents have previously consented to their child receiving an LFD test in school, Kingsmead will assume that this consent still applies to the testing which will take place in September. Any parent(s) wishing to withdraw consent for their child to be tested in school has the right to do so and can notify us of this via the [office@kingsmeadschool.net](mailto:office@kingsmeadschool.net) email address.

Thank you all for your support with making the children's return in September as safe as possible.

If parents have previously consented to activities week, Kingsmead will assume that this consent still applies for the activities the students were selected for in July. The students have been given these activities but will have a form time session each day so they can be updated. It is important they dress appropriately for the activities they are selected for.

## New School Day

Reminder that the new school day will be from 8.30am to 2.30 pm for year 7-10 and 12/13. Year 11 finish at 3.30 pm on all days that they have Period 6. Students will now be able to enter at either the Rocky Park entrance or Littleworth Road entrance at the start and end of the day.

## End of Year Reports

Your child's end of year (or cycle 5) progress report, covering the period up to the May half-term, will be available for you to view and download in GO 4 Schools later today.

## School Uniform

We will expect students to wear the **correct** uniform from **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September**. It should be easy to purchase the correct school uniform from either Crested School Wear or other retailers ready for September.



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The uniform policy which has more detailed information is available on the school website. If you are unsure, please contact the appropriate Progress Leader for advice.

## **Mobile Phones**

Students should know that their mobile phone/electronic equipment should be turned off and in their bag. Staff will confiscate a phone that is seen when a student has not followed the procedure. Please can you support Kingsmead by reminding your child of this in September.

## **First Day Arrangements**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, students in Year 8-13 should go straight to their tutor room at 8.30am to be registered before their Activities begin. The vast majority of tutor groups will be the same in September. There are a small number of tutor groups where their Progress Tutor has changed (i.e. a new member of staff). All students should go to their current tutor room as of July 2021, and, if they have a new tutor, the member of staff will meet the students there and escort them to their new tutor room.

On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of September students should wear appropriate non-uniform clothing, sensible footwear and bring a change of clothes, towel, hat and suntan cream. The activities may result in them getting wet.

Can I finally thank all parents, students and members of our community for their support over the last 12 months. It has been an unprecedented time and one that we will all be glad is at an end.

We hope to be able to start September with a new hope that things will return to normality.

Best Wishes

Maria Mincher  
Head of School