



Kingsmead School



A PARTNER ACADEMY IN JOHN TAYLOR MAT

Head of School: Mrs M Mincher, Bsc, NPQH

RESILIENT



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5th March 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Just a small update on the return to school on Monday the 8th March. In line with Government guidance, by the time all students return to school they will have had at least 2 tests ensuring that we have identified as many positive asymptomatic students and staff as possible before commencing teaching.

I also wanted to remind staff and parents of the following:

In order to follow the continued government recommendations around social distancing and year group 'bubbles', we have maintained adjustments to the school day. These changes will revert to normal as soon as the restrictions around year groups and social distancing are removed.

The adjustments allow us to reduce unstructured time during the day, whilst enabling students and staff the opportunity to have some refreshments and comfort breaks. This structure allows us to keep specialist teachers in specialist rooms and means that we can maintain our 5 hours a day of lessons, ensuring that the curriculum is fully taught to all year groups.

Arrival in Year Group "Bubbles"

Students will have an 'bubble entrance' allocated to each year group. They will be expected to arrive and leave by that entrance and then head to their 'zone' until P1.

8.25 – Arrival of students at their own designated gate. Students must head straight to P1 where their classroom door will be open.

8.30-9.30am – P1

9.30-10.30 – P2

10.30-10.45 – Break 1 – Students are expected to move to their year group zone where they can drink and eat. In poor weather they will have a break in their P2 classroom.

10.45-11.45 – P3

11.45-12.45 – P4

12.45-1.00pm – Break 2 – Years 7-10 students are expected to move to their year group zone where they can eat and drink. In poor weather they will have a break in their P2 classroom.

12.45-1.05 – Break 2 – Year 11 only – Year 11 can go to the dining room where they will have exclusive use of the facility for 20 minutes.

1.00-2.00pm – Year 7-10 – P5 (1hr)

1.05-2.00pm – Year 11 – P5 (55 minutes)

2.00-3.00pm – P6 Booster sessions – Years 10, 11 and 13 – catch up, interventions and exam support.

Departure

Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 go home to have lunch and take part in home learning activities (homework).

Keeping Safe

- Toilets and fire door handles will be cleaned throughout the day on rotation ensuring that they are kept to a high standard of cleanliness and that soap and hand gel availability is checked regularly
- Children will be asked to use sanitiser as they enter and leave a classroom. Sanitiser will be provided at the front of each classrooms in 4 stations to speed up exit and entrance to rooms
- Children can wear face masks in lessons if they choose to
- Children will be asked to wash hands or use sanitiser before and after eating
- Staff and Year 11 students who are involved in Booster sessions will be allocated a longer break during the day



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- There will be table wipes available in all classrooms
- Tissues will be provided in every classroom and toilet to support the 'catch it, bin it' strategy
- Staff will be asked to stay 2M away from children in the 'teacher zone'
- We have increased the water stations around school to reduce the opportunity to cross contaminate during filling water bottles and to ensure children stay hydrated during the day
- All classroom doors will be propped open to prevent cross contamination from door handles. Children will have to follow the 1-way system to and from classes and year group zones
- All doors which are not fire doors will be propped open
- Extracurricular activities may only run in year groups. We will monitor if government guidance changes on this

How can parents and students support us and keep students, parents and staff safe?

- Please talk to your child about the ways that we have made school safe for their return. Talk about going straight to and from school and not meeting up with friends in groups
- Please talk to your child about their responsibility to keep members of the community safe by not congregating in groups that cause people to be afraid during this national lock down
- Only arrive at school at the expected time of 8.25
- Do not congregate outside school or around school in groups
- Do not wait outside school to pick up or drop off children
- Do not visit school unless it is necessary; if possible, ring us. If this is not possible, please make an appointment to come into school so that we can ensure that appropriate social distancing is achieved to protect parents and staff
- Keep children at home if they have a temperature, cough, cold, stomach bug or a loss of taste and smell
- Inform us straight away if you or your child or other close family member is being tested or has received a positive result for covid-19
- Try where possible to provide food, snacks and water from home
- Try where possible to ensure that children have had a breakfast before they come into school
- Leave the school site promptly when escorted to your 'zone' by your teacher

As shared previously with you, the first three days have a focus on learning and fun, well-being activities. We are very pleased to announce that our collective hard work on well-being has been recognised through the successful awarding of a nationally recognised Well-being in Schools award on the 4th of March. Thank you on behalf of the students and staff to all parents who helped us achieve recognition for this prestigious award.

Our community is starting on the pathway back to normality again on the 8th and we are utterly excited to have all the children back with us. Thank you again for all the ways large and small that you have supported each other and us through this difficult time.

With thanks and best wishes

Maria Mincher
Head of School