



Kirkburton Middle School

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Enjoying, Achieving, Succeeding Together

11th April 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

I hope you and your family are well and you have had a good Easter. With the arrival of warmer weather and longer days, the summer term is always an enjoyable time in schools. Whilst things will inevitably be a little different once again this summer, I am hoping the success of the ongoing national measures to drive down the spread of Covid-19 will enable us to continue our journey towards a return to 'normality' in school. For us at KMS, this will be a very measured return and we will always be guided by local transmission rates and national guidelines.

I would like to draw your attention to the following arrangements for the start of this term.

Face coverings

The government has confirmed that face coverings should continue to be worn in secondary school and college classrooms as a precautionary measure when pupils return after the Easter break. It is expected that face coverings will no longer be required to be worn in classrooms, or by pupils in other communal areas, at step 3 of the government roadmap, which will be no earlier than May 17th. [Further details can be found here](#). We have been incredibly impressed with the way pupils have adapted to this change and we ask they keep this up for a few weeks longer. We recognise that pupils occasionally forget items for school and we will always supply face coverings if forgotten. We are getting concerned however that a small minority of pupils are failing to bring a face covering on a regular basis. Where this is the case, we may start issuing sanctions in line with the school behaviour policy. Please contact school if you have any questions regarding this.

Bubbles

For most lessons, pupils will continue to be taught in their tutor group bubbles. The key difference this term is that we will reinstate our original maths groups. This means our bubble sizes will increase to 90 as maths classes will contain a mix of pupils from three different tutor groups. Careful consideration will be given as to how pupils are seated in their maths classrooms in order to keep the number of contacts for pupils to a minimum. During social times outside, pupils will also be able to mix with their full bubble. Whilst we are relaxing things slightly, the systems of control we will be operating under will still be stricter than they were when we returned to school in September.



Uniform

In recent weeks we have tried to support families as much as possible in relation to uniform. With the reopening of non-essential shops from tomorrow, there is the expectation **that all pupils should attend in full school uniform from Monday 19th April**, except on those days when they have PE. Please contact your child's Head of Year if this is likely to be an issue for your child and we will provide whatever support we can. [Please see the school website for full details of our uniform expectations.](#)

Testing

Thank you for your continued support with the lateral flow testing. We ask that you continue with twice weekly testing on Wednesday and Sunday evenings until further notice. [Please register all test results here via the test and trace website.](#) If your child or anybody else in the household tests positive on a lateral flow test, [they must take a confirmatory PCR test, which can be booked here.](#) All members of the household must self-isolate until the result of the PCR test has been received. Please remember some families are now entitled to apply for a [test and trace support payment](#) if required to isolate.

Please contact school immediately should your child test positive either via a lateral flow test or a PCR test.

Pupil support

We recognise the start of a new term can be challenging for some pupils at the best of times. If you feel your child may need some additional help with the return to school, please contact their form tutor who will be happy to provide or coordinate support as required.

Thank you as always for all your ongoing support and we look forward to a happy and productive term in school. A term that will end with us saying goodbye to our fantastic Year 8 pupils (where did that time go?) and preparing to welcome our Year 6 class of 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Taylor
Headteacher