



Kirkburton Middle School

Turnshaws Avenue
Kirkburton
Huddersfield
HD8 0TJ

Headteacher: Mr C Taylor

Telephone: 01484 222737
Email: office@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
Web: www.kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Enjoying, Achieving, Succeeding Together

7th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are well and you've had a good week. With no parent bulletin this week, I'd like to update you on the following.

OFSTED Report

Our long awaited OFSTED report has now been published and it gives us great pleasure to finally share this with you. As you will see the school has received an overall grading of Good with the inspectors grading the school outstanding in two of the four areas judged. As I have said previously, we are very pleased with the report and we believe it firmly reflects the positive direction in which our school is moving. Such a result doesn't happen by accident and we are very lucky to have such a hardworking and dedicated staff body at KMS; people who are firmly committed to ensuring all pupils receive the very best possible all round education during their three years at KMS. I'm sure parents would like to join me in thanking them for all their ongoing efforts; school improvement is never easy but against the backdrop of a pandemic, their success is remarkable. I would also like to thank all those connected with the school who have supported us to achieve this outcome; pupils, governors, colleagues at the Mast Academy Trust and yourselves. I think we make quite a good team. The really exciting prospect is what we will go on to achieve once we are no longer dealing with a global pandemic. The sky is the limit!

There are some aspects of the report where we feel inspectors haven't quite understood the work of the school and, whilst we agree in principle with what they are saying, we feel the language doesn't fully reflect the situation in school. We also agree with the areas identified for improvement, both areas are already a key focus for the school this year and they have been part of our development plans since before OFSTED visited. In summary, we feel the overall judgements the inspection team have arrived at are the right ones for our school and we are pleased with the overall outcome.

First Week Back

It has been great to see pupils back in school and we thank them for the mature way in which they have approached another difficult start to the term. Thank you to Year 7 parents for your support with the staggered start which has enabled a smooth and safe start to the new term

Covid-19

In light of the current Omicron outbreak, we have taken the decision to change some aspects of our daily operations. We have suspended our weekly full year group assemblies, these will be delivered remotely



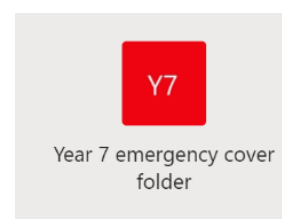
instead to pupils in their tutor rooms. We will also be moving a lot of events online and they will now be held remotely. This includes; all staff meetings and briefings, the upcoming Year 6 SATs evening and the Year 6 parents' evenings. We recognise some parents may be disappointed by this decision however we hope it is only a short term measure and our priority is to try and keep all children in school. Further information about the upcoming parent events will be sent out in due course.

Vaccinations

All pupils in school who are aged 12 and over will be given the opportunity to receive a vaccination in school on Monday 24th January. This may be a second dose for those who have already had a vaccination or a first dose for those who have just turned 12 or who missed the last vaccination date. **Unlike last time, this offer is now open to all pupils who are 12 and above, not just those in year 8. Full details will be sent out next week along with a consent form which we ask all parents complete and return regardless of whether or not their child will be have a vaccination.**

Remote Teaching and Learning

Wherever pupils are isolating due to testing positive for Covid-19 they will be invited to join lessons remotely if they are feeling well enough. Where live lessons aren't appropriate, staff will place work in the class folder on Teams. On occasion, due to an emergency staff absence, a teacher other than your child's class teacher may need to set work to complete. Due to the way Teams is set up, they do not have access to other teachers Teams folders. Where this is the case, pupils should look in the whole year group 'emergency cover' team where their work will be placed.



Snow Closures

With snow in the forecast once again I'd like to inform parents of how we will support your child's learning in the event of an emergency closure due to snow.

Day 1 – wherever possible, staff will set work for your child to complete and put this in to the class folder on Teams. Please be aware this may not happen first thing in the morning, for example if a member of staff has set off to work and is stuck en route, or if a member of staff has young children and they have yet to make emergency childcare arrangements. Can I suggest that whilst pupils are waiting for their work, they may want to go out and enjoy the snow – although it sometimes feels otherwise, closures due to snow are usually quite rare (we hope!). Work set will be a consolidation of prior learning as not all pupils will have devices to access the work, as such it is not essential pupils complete all the work.

Day 2 onwards – in the unlikely event of a prolonged school closure, staff will aim to deliver live lessons in line with the normal school timetable. This won't always be possible and where this is the case, work will be set via the class folder in Teams. Wherever possible, we will aim to deliver devices to those pupils who need one.

Uniform

As mentioned before Christmas, we will be carrying out a full review of our school uniform this term and all parents will be invited to contribute. In the meantime we expect all pupils to arrive every day in full school uniform. Full details can be found [here on the school website](#) and in your child's planner. **Please note, trousers must not be skinny or leggings style and those wearing skirts should wear their logoed KMS skirt.** We do have lots of uniform in school should you need any assistance in this area as do the [uniform exchange in Huddersfield](#). Thank you for your ongoing support with this and if you have any questions about uniform, please contact your child's Head of Year.

And finally...

I think that is everything for now and apologies to send two long letters in a week. We hope you enjoy reading the OFSTED report and, as always, please contact school should you have any questions whatsoever about your child's education.

Thank you as always for all your ongoing support and I hope you have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Taylor
Headteacher

Latest Covid-19 Government Guidance

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges](#)

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)