



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HEADMASTER: DANIEL BERRY BA (HONS) MA NPOH

DHB/SLF

10 June 2020

Dear Parent and Pupils

I am writing to thank you for your continued support for Kirkham Grammar School, the pupils and staff. We would also like to provide a way forward for the school in the coming weeks and months.

Sometimes you do need to make bold decisions in challenging times; taking back some control of a situation that remains dynamic is a battle worth having. You will already know and agree with the view that we have continued to ensure that the safety of pupils and staff, delivering some form of education and keeping the business of school alive have been our priorities. However, we have now decided we need to do more to ensure Kirkham Grammar School is best placed for the new normal.

We have turned our focus to the end of this year and the start of the new and have started to ask parents in previous updates about ending this academic year sooner and starting the new one earlier. The majority (including staff and Governors unanimously) would like to see the end of remote learning and the stresses that brings to working families and a return to the new normal. There does therefore seem to be a consensus to finish sooner and start the 2020/21 Academic Year at an earlier date when we are hopeful we will be back in school in some way. The current Government review of lockdown is not going to be available until Thursday 25 June, therefore very little will change before then. With the local increase in the R-rate and LCC advice to remain closed we remain in a precarious position.

So what have we decided?

- The school year will finish on Friday 19 June 2020 at 3.55pm;
- We will be adapting the current kgs@home teaching rota to support face to face meetings and consolidation of learning by Heads of Department. This may result in some staff being unavailable to contact due to the furlough rota. Heads of Department will be available during the final eight days of the working term. All work will continue to be set by your son's or daughter's teaching staff but may be overseen by the Heads of Departments;

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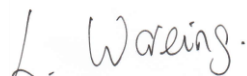
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- We will return on Monday 17 August (still protecting the eight week holiday) with an induction week, consisting of a transition for new starters, activities for year groups on a rota, GCSE results day, First Year/6th Form day and staff INSET;
- We would resume normal lessons on Monday 24 August. Considering we would not start formal teaching normally until Friday 4 September this is advantageous, alongside increasing the school day;
- The term would be stripped back to focus on education in the traditional sense; we intend to make it as straightforward as possible with the priority for staff being the pupils and holding back any new initiatives and gimmicky events;
- We have increased the academic year by five whole weeks even with finishing two weeks earlier and starting two weeks earlier. October half-term and all other holidays remain the same;
- The Key Workers Children provision will also finish on Friday 19 June 2020. The LEA will be contacted to provide a list of provisions locally;
- The early start from Monday 17 August would not be compulsory for pupils until the Wednesday 2 September, however, we would expect you to attend;
- We may or may not have restrictions in place in August and will review if necessary;
- Fees will continue to be reviewed during this period;
- More detailed details will follow during July about this exciting initiative.

I do know that what we are proposing is unprecedented, challenging and will create some possible problems. However, in all honesty if we do nothing we may regret it. Sometimes you have to make a leap of faith and try to do your best for KGS.

We all appreciate your support and continued loyalty with this proposal.

Yours sincerely



L Wareing (Mrs)
Chair of Governors