



THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are well.

If your son is diagnosed with Covid-19 over the coming weeks can you please inform the school, admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk, so that we have a record of this when we start lateral flow testing on their return.

Your son should be following his normal timetable even if he has not received an invitation to the lesson. The normal physical moving around between lessons is obviously missing and I encourage all students to go for a brief walk or have some light exercise between lessons.

Mr Dixon (Deputy Head Master) should be contacted if you have any safeguarding concerns at justin.dixon@kings.lincs.sch.uk.

Formal Examinations

On 13 January Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP, Secretary of State, wrote to Simon Lebus, the Chief Regulator of Ofqual. The letter can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951797/Letter_from_Gavin_Williamson_to_Simon_Lebus.pdf with the response here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951778/S_L_to_SOS_2021-01-13.pdf.

I am delighted to see in the response letter the line *"to secure clarity for students and teachers as quickly as possible."* We believe that consultation will start soon and I will continue to keep you informed as information becomes available.

It is important for both GCSE and A level students to be aware of the statement: *"In line with the parameters set by your policy, we agree that the consultation should consider the nature of the assessments that we will ask teachers to carry out for GCSE, AS and A levels this year. In particular, we will want the consultation to consider the role of externally set short papers. We know that the more the evidence comes from students' performance in externally set papers, the fairer and more consistent teachers' assessments are likely to be, because all students are given the chance to show what they can do in the same way."*

Today Year 11 students should have received their CAT 2 grades which are based on the mock exam and previous assessments. These grades cannot, therefore, be compared to the Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) that the school will be asked to provide in the future.

Changes to all students' usernames

As part of our continued improvement in our Information Technology infrastructure we are having to change all student usernames. Passwords will not change. Over the coming weeks students will receive an individualised email informing them that their username is changing.

It will be changed from the format forename.familyname to 20.f.familyname. Please can students watch out for the email confirming that the change is in process.

Year 9 and Year 10 Vaccinations during Lockdown

We are working with the Regional Health Protection Team to help provide a vaccination programme for Year 9 and Year 10.

Head Master: Simon Pickett BSc

The King's School, Brook Street, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6RP

T: 01476 563180 F: 01476 590953 E: admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk / finance@kings.lincs.sch.uk

www.kings.lincs.sch.uk



The following is a message from the Health Protection Team:

“Although this may seem strange at a time when we are all worried about COVID-19, routine vaccinations for Year 9s were missed last year, and – due to the lockdown – are in danger of being missed again this year. It is understandable that parents and pupils may not be concerned about the health risks of bacterial Meningitis infection at present, but Meningitis can be an extremely serious condition in children, whereas the risk to a child from COVID is very low. If these vaccines continue to be missed, the risk to children's health will grow, and outbreaks may occur.

There has been a national decision that these vital vaccinations need to continue through this lockdown, and Lincolnshire Community Health Services (sic) taking all steps necessary to prevent any risk of COVID transmission during this process.”

To facilitate this, students have been allocated the following times to come onto site on the days and times in the table below. Please see the letter that you will have received if you have a child in Year 9 or Year 10 to find out more about the arrangements for the vaccinations.

Wednesday 20 January – Year 9		Thursday 21 January – Year 10	
9 Burleigh	09.30am – 10.10am	10 Burleigh	09.30am – 10.10am
9 Curteis	10.15am – 10.55am	10 Curteis	10.15am – 10.55am
9 Foxe	11.00am – 11.40am	10 Foxe	11.00am – 11.40am
9 More	11.45am – 12.25pm	10 More	11.45am – 12.25pm
9 Newton	12.30pm – 1.10pm	10 Newton	12.30pm – 1.10pm
9 School	1.15pm – 1.55pm	10 School	1.15pm – 1.55pm

Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers

The provision in school will continue for the Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers' group. This will predominantly be access to computer facilities so that they can complete their online lessons with their peers. The Critical Workers definition has changed and the list is now available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Only one parent needs to be a Critical Worker to access this facility. If you would like to add your son to the Critical Workers provision could you please inform the school by email to admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk. Please state the days required over the next two-week period. The school will be open from 08:30 until 15:45 for this small group of students.

Remote Learning

Our remote learning is now well established and we will continue to offer online lessons on the Microsoft Teams platform. We have a limited number of laptops available for loan. If you are struggling with Information Technology access, please email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk and we will see if we are able to assist. If your son requires an exercise book to continue working, we can supply either a lined or square-lined exercise book on request which can be used for all subjects. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the different books usually available for each subject. If you need to collect a new exercise book from the Estates cabin, please email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk.



Free School Meals

Students in the Grantham area that receive Free School Meals will have a lunch parcel delivered weekly; this is an increased provision in line with recent guidance. Those who live outside of this area will be emailed vouchers so that they can purchase groceries for providing lunches. If you have any issues accessing Free School Meal vouchers please contact admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk Thank you for the positive feedback received regarding this week's deliveries.

Year 9 Parents' Evening and GCSE Options

The Year 9 Parents' Evening is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 20 January. Appointments can be booked using the Parents' Evening System at <https://kingsgrantham.schoolcloud.co.uk/> The options presentation detailing the process for choosing GCSE subjects can be found on the school website at [The King's School Grantham - Year 9 Options Evening - GCSEs](#).

Year 11 Sixth Form Options

Presentations and information regarding the application process for the Sixth Form can be found on the school website at [The King's School Grantham - Year 11 Options Evening - A levels](#). Year 11 students received an email from Unifrog at the end of last term which invites them to open their online Unifrog account; this email was sent to the student school email accounts. The Unifrog account will give a wealth of additional guidance and will also give students access to the Sixth Form application form. Students are only required to fill in the King's School application form and save their populated document in their student locker.

Mental Health and Well Being

We are very much aware that many young people are not finding the current lockdown easy. I would like to reassure you that this is perfectly normal and the School will continue to support as much as we can. Mrs Wigham will be starting maternity leave on Friday 22 January. Mrs Bond will be leading the Mental Health and Wellbeing Team from this date and will be able to support students and parents.

We would also like to make you aware of some resources which the NHS have made available through their Heathy Minds service to support children, parents and carers which we hope you will find useful:

- Online managing worries and anxious feelings workshop a 40-minute-long workshop for Primary and Secondary aged children: <https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/young-people/helping-you-help-yourself>
- Coronavirus support page- with new videos to support children/young people, parents/carers and teachers during COVID-19: <https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/young-people/coronavirus-informationresource-hub>

Thank you for your support and co-operation at this difficult time and I hope that we can open again soon.

Yours sincerely

SIMON PICKETT
Head Master