



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 for 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. We are receiving some reports of students not having microphones restricting them from participating in lessons. Simple USB microphones can be purchased online for less than £3, including delivery.

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

Formal Examinations

The consultation on replacement of examinations for the summer of 2021 is now open. I would encourage all parents and students to respond to this consultation as it will influence assessment this year and possibly for years to come. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

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 19.f.familyname. Please can students watch out for the email confirming that the change is in process. [The 19. represents the year the year group joined the school, Y8 – 19; Y9 – 18, Y10 – 17; Y11 – 16; Y12 – 15 and Y13 – 14].

We anticipate making this change on Thursday 28 January for Year 8, although this does rely on Microsoft's availability. This process is already complete for Year 7 and will continue with other years over the coming weeks.

Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers

The provision in school will continue for the Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers' group.

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.

Free School Meals

All Free School Meals families will be provided with vouchers for £15 per week during the period 25 January to 12 February 2021 through the EdenRed National Voucher Scheme. The February half term break will be funded and a voucher will be provided with details nearer the time. If you have any issues accessing Free School Meal vouchers please contact admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk. If any families are experiencing significant

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hardship, we are registered as a referral agency with the Grantham Food Bank for families that live locally. Please email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk if you would like further information.

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 7 parents will receive a letter next week regarding the Year 7 parents' evening scheduled for Thursday 4 February.

Year 9 GCSE Options

All Year 9 students have been emailed a notification of their Microsoft Teams meeting to discuss GCSE options next week. Please note that these meetings are only for students.

Unifrog login details have also been emailed to students. A copy of the Year 9 GCSE Application Form has been posted in the student locker within Unifrog. Information on how to use Unifrog and upload the application form and personal statement can be found 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](#). 164 students have accessed their Unifrog accounts and I am pleased to see that students are uploading their application forms ahead of the 29 January deadline. Student 1:1 meetings are being scheduled for the week beginning 8 February and will be held on Teams. Students are only required to fill in the King's School application form and save their populated document in their student locker at this stage.

Year 13 Mock Examinations

The Year 13 mock exams are calendared to be starting on Monday 8 February. The enforced closure of the school has required us to modify our plans and our hope is to be able to run the mocks in the first two weeks after half term (22 February-5 March). We will continue to review the national guidance and will keep you informed if any alterations are required due to further school closures.

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. 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 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 continued support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

SIMON PICKETT
Head Master