

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are well. It was disappointing that schools will not start to return before Monday 8 March 2021, however, we remain hopeful that we will get to see our students enjoying being in school again very soon.

Mental Health and Well Being

Next week is Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week. Kooth, who as a school we work with, is unveiling its "Don't Do It Alone" campaign, designed to encourage open conversations around mental health so children and young people know they are not alone with their struggles. Kooth.com is a safe, free and anonymous online mental health platform currently paid for by Lincolnshire County Council. The campaign will be fully released on 1 February. Home - Kooth

The 'Every Mind Matters' website is also an excellent resource for researching resources to support your mental health. This can be accessed at Every Mind Matters | One You (www.nhs.uk)

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 closes today and if you have not done so already, 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.

 $\underline{https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021}$

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

We anticipate making this change on Thursday 11 February for Year 9, although this does rely on Microsoft's availability. This process is already complete for Years 7 and 8 and will continue with other years over the coming weeks.

Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers

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.

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www.kings.lincs.sch.uk



Free School Meals

All Free School Meals families will be provided with vouchers for £15 per week during the period 25 January to 5 March 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 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.

Wi-Fi Vouchers

We have several additional Wi-Fi vouchers available on a first come first served basis that will connect free of charge to a BT Wi-Fi Hotspot until the end of July 2021. If you think this would be useful and you are in range of a Hotspot, please email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Online booking for the Year 7 parents' evening will open on Friday 29 January at 8:00pm. Bookings can be made at https://kingsgrantham.schoolcloud.co.uk/ Appointments are available on a first come, first served basis and we strongly advise that parents book early to avoid disappointment.

Year 9 GCSE Options

All Year 9 students have been emailed a notification of their Microsoft Teams meeting to discuss GCSE options. 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

Thank you to the many Year 11 students who have uploaded their Sixth Form applications onto Unifrog ahead of today's deadline. We will be scheduling 1:1 meetings next week ready to meet students on Teams during the week beginning 8 February. For students who have missed the deadline, a reminder that the options information can be found at The King's School Grantham - Year 11 Options Evening - A levels.

Year 13 Mock Examinations

The Year 13 mock exams are scheduled to be starting on Monday 8 February. The enforced closure of the school has required us to modify our plans. We are reviewing the national guidance and will keep you inform you of the necessary alterations next week.

Thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

SIMON PICKETT Head Master