



# THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and I hope that you were able to gain some quality family time over the half term, and maybe some reduced screen time. This week has seen some important information released from the government regarding education. The announcement on Monday 22 February that schools are to start reopening from 08 March is enormously welcomed here and we will be delighted to see students back in school. On Thursday 25 February the response to the GCSE and A level consultation was released and thank you to all of the parents and students who responded to the survey.

It is important to stress that the return to school will be phased around a Flow Testing model. All students will need to be tested on three occasions over the coming weeks and will then be issued with home testing kits. This is to help identify asymptomatic students, supporting both the school and home environments.

## Lateral Flow Device (LFD)

Students will start to be flow tested during the week of 01 March 2021. The school has already completed over 400 negative flow tests. To reassure all students I will be releasing a step-by-step video outlining the arrangements for testing. For your son to be flow tested we must have consent. Please complete the consent paperwork on the school's website: [The King's School Grantham - SARS-COV-2 Lateral Flow Tests](#).

Lateral Flow Testing remains voluntary for students and staff in all schools in England. If a student, or their parent, does not wish to take a test, then they should return to school with the rest of their year group as outlined below. However, we would like to encourage all students to take the test. Please do contact us if you are concerned regarding this.

Students will receive three Lateral Flow tests in school and are able to return to face-to-face teaching after a negative result from their first test. After students have completed three onsite tests they will be given a testing kit and be asked to test at home. We will send more information about the home testing once we receive this from the DfE.

The following is an outline of when students will receive their first test. Individual timings for testing will be sent by email next week.

### Initial Flow Test:

Year Group	Date of first test
Year 7	The morning of Wednesday 10 March
Year 8	The afternoon of Thursday 11 March
Year 9	The afternoon of Wednesday 10 March
Year 10	The morning of Friday 05 March
Year 11	The afternoon of Friday 05 March
Year 12	The morning of Thursday 04 March
Year 13	The afternoon of Thursday 04 March

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](mailto:admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk) / [finance@kings.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@kings.lincs.sch.uk)

[www.kings.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.kings.lincs.sch.uk)



Students must bring with them a Smart Phone, a pen, a parent's email address (for the result), a mobile phone number (for the result and NHS registration) and their NHS number. A face covering must be worn on-site by all students apart from when taking their lateral flow test.

### What will happen if a student is tested positive for COVID-19

If a student receives a positive result from a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) they will be issued with instructions to take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test. This would be completed at home and posted for testing. All students and adults who have been in close contact with the student will have to self-isolate. The guidance from the DfE is clear that both adults and students must isolate for 10 days, even if they themselves have been vaccinated or have a negative test result.

### Reopening and students returning for Face to Face Education

Students will return to school on the following days for face to face teaching.

Remote learning will continue for each year group until they return to school following the schedule below.

Year Group	Date of return to in school education
Year 7	The morning of 10 March
Year 8	The afternoon of 11 March
Year 9	The afternoon of 10 March
Year 10	The morning of 09 March
Year 11	The morning of 08 March
Year 12	The morning of 08 March
Year 13	The morning of 08 March

The return to school will also see the reintroduction of some extra-curricular clubs and activities that we hope will support the mental health and wellbeing of students.

We have implemented a number of systems to support a safe return to school. Many of these are outlined below with further information available via the website and detailed in the updated risk assessment.

#### Prevention

Students, staff and other adults must not come into school if:

- they have one or more of the coronavirus symptoms
- a member of their household including their support bubble has coronavirus symptoms
- they are required to quarantine after recently visiting countries outside the common travel area
- they have had a positive test result and have not completed their period of self-isolation.

#### Coronavirus symptoms include:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Anyone who receives a positive test or displays symptoms, along with household members including siblings, must not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms



- the test date if they did not have symptoms but have a positive test (LFD or PCR test)

Any student who begins to display symptoms whilst in school will be isolated. Parents or carers will be contacted and asked to collect their son and any siblings. Students will not be allowed to travel home on public transport.

### Measures to help with control

Face coverings will need to be worn in all indoor areas of the school, in line with the national guidance. From the 8 March our strong recommendation is for face coverings to be worn in all lessons with the exception of Physical Education when exercising. The wearing of face coverings in lessons will then be reviewed at Easter to align with any changes in national guidance.

Please can we ask that students bring two face coverings with them each day as this will then allow students to change their face covering if it gets damp or wet. Students should also bring a clear sealable plastic bag with them (sandwich type) to store their face covering in when eating at lunchtime or when they have PE.

The King's School face coverings will be available to purchase by emailing [finance@kings.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@kings.lincs.sch.uk) and making an online donation of at least £2 per mask between Monday 1 March and Friday 5 March. These face coverings will also be on sale in school from Monday 8 March.

Students will continue to be encouraged to complete regular handwashing with either soap or hand sanitiser including:

- when they arrive at school
- when they return from breaks
- when they change rooms
- before and after eating
- when changing or removing their face covering

Catch it, bin it and kill it will continue to be emphasised with all students asked to adhere to this approach and bring tissues with them if required.

Additional cleaning throughout the day will continue to ensure high use areas including door handles, light switches and toilets are cleaned frequently.

Year group bubbles will continue to operate to minimise the contact across different year groups and maintaining distances between individuals where possible.

Each classroom has an area specifically marked out for members of staff to teach safely within. This will continue to be adhered to.

Staggered finishing times at the end of the school day and staggered lunches will continue. Start times will continue as they are and the school building will be open from 8:15am to avoid all students arriving and entering the building in a short period of time.

All classrooms will be well-ventilated and appropriate windows and doors opened to allow a comfortable teaching environment to be maintained.

The school will embrace the asymptomatic testing programme and liaise closely with the Lincolnshire Health Protection Team should a student or staff member test positive for coronavirus to ensure swift action is taken. We will continue to identify any close contacts should a student or staff member receive a positive test result.

### A level and GCSE Centre Assessed Grades (CAG)

The guidance for Centre Assessed Grades was released on Thursday 25 February. Thank you to all students and parents who responded to the national consultation. The senior team will consider how best to



implement the guidance over the coming days and I will write specifically to the students of Year 11 and 13 and their parents once these deliberations are complete.

Please note that the exam results days have changed and are now:

- A level results 10 August 2021
- GCSE results 12 August 2021

### Year 13 Mock Examinations

In light of the announcement on Thursday 25 February and to facilitate a smooth return to school prior to the mock examinations, the Year 13 Mocks will now start the week of 15 March 2021. The order of the mock examinations remains the same as the original schedule. The schedule was emailed to all students by the Examinations Officer earlier today.

### Mental Health and Well Being

The pastoral teams are delighted to be able to welcome students back to school from Monday 08 March. This second period of government-imposed restrictions has been particularly challenging for some students and their families. We are very much aware that students will need plenty of support as they return to the classroom and a range of extra-curricular activities.

In addition to the regular support of tutors and Heads of Year we have also secured the services of an additional school counsellor. Students may self-refer if they wish to speak with a counsellor, but if, as a parent or carer you feel your son would benefit from this opportunity then please contact Mrs Bond.

### Online Safety Training

Year 7 students have now received login details to access a series of courses on online safety, healthy relationships, alcohol awareness, anti-social behaviour and fire safety. The courses have been produced by Lincolnshire County Council through their Safer Communities Service and would normally have been delivered in school earlier this term. If your son has any issues accessing the courses please email [SSP@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:SSP@lincolnshire.gov.uk) who will be able to help.

### Public Transport

The following is a message from the Lincolnshire County Council Transport Team:

“The education transport network will operate in full from 8 March 2021 for all eligible children. This should only be used where absolutely necessary to reduce interactions between pupils. Please encourage parents to transport their children to school or college wherever possible.”

The Council has updated its information page for parents and carers. Please visit <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport/covid-19-information-school-transport> for more information.

Please encourage pupils to maintain social distancing, wear a face covering and follow all other infection prevention control measures wherever possible on education transport.”

### 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.

It will be changed from the format forename.familyname to 16.f.familyname. Please can students watch out for the email confirming that the change is in process. [The 16. represents the year the year group joined the school, Y11 – 16; Y12 – 15 and Y13 – 14].



We anticipate making the next change on Wednesday 10 March for Year 11, 12 and 13 students although this does rely on Microsoft's availability. This process is already complete for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

### 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](mailto: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

Free School Meal vouchers will be provided for eligible students up to the date when their year group resumes face to face teaching. 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](mailto:admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk) if you would like further information.

### Catering

Catering will be available for all Year Groups resuming face to face teaching from 8 March. Please ensure the catering cards are brought into school and please top-up lunch accounts where this is needed. There is a cash loader in school, but catering cards are required to use this facility. Contactless payments such as debit cards, pre-paid credit cards, Apple Pay and Google Pay are accepted at all catering locations. The daily catering schedule will be sent out next week. The previous menu will resume with Chartwells committed to ensuring that there are a variety of options complying with the Food School Standards at each outlet.

### 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](mailto:admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Pickett'.

SIMON PICKETT  
Head Master