



THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see students back in school this week. The students have been fantastic and we have now completed well over 2500 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests.

Starting this week, all students who have completed 3 Lateral Flow Tests in school have been issued a home testing kit for the following week. We strongly advise students to test on a Monday and a Friday.

It is important that students report any positive tests to the school at: admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk and isolate following the NHS advice.

<https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/03/09/covid-testing-in-schools-who-will-get-tested-how-and-where-will-they-be-tested-who-has-to-isolate-after-a-positive-test-these-questions-and-more-answered/>

Mental Health and Well Being

The pastoral teams are delighted to be able to welcome students back to school from Monday 8 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.

We have asked Dr Aric Sigman, an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society, to deliver a series of assemblies to all students on how they can support their mental health and wellbeing. Dr Sigman has worked extensively with the Department of Health, European Parliament and the Royal College of Paediatrics on teenage health. He is also a contributing author to the new Parliamentary Group report on Mental Health in childhood.

Dr Sigman has also recorded 2 presentations for parents on practical and achievable steps that parents can take to strengthen children's mental health and resilience and reduce the risk of mental health problems developing. To view these presentations please ask your son to login to his school account and access SharePoint. The presentations can be viewed at:

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

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

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



- 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.

A level and GCSE Centre Assessed Grades (CAG)

I have presented to the Year 11 and Year 13 students on two occasions this week. Initially I introduced the schools plans for the Centre assessments and this was followed later in the week by answering their questions that had arisen as a result of the presentation. I hope that this has provided some clarity.

We are still awaiting the additional information from the Examination Boards. They are going to provide assessment material including new questions which have not previously been used. While we are waiting for these Heads of Subject have been preparing information for students on the Knowledge, Skills, and Understanding that they will be assessing. We hope to have this information to students during the week of the 22 March.

Last week I released a short presentation explaining the actions we will be taking at King's:
<https://www.kings.lincs.sch.uk/cagyear11and13>.

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

The Year 13 Mocks will start the week beginning 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.

All the very best of luck to the students for next week, I am sure you will do your best.

Year 11 and 13 Special Considerations

Under normal circumstances if a student suffers an adverse situation during or leading up to the examinations period the school applies for a special consideration. If this is upheld by the examination board then an adjustment is made to their mark.

As there is no external examination, we would like to know of any students who meet the following criteria. We do believe that we are already aware of the vast majority of these, however, as this is a formal process, I ask that you inform us if you wish the school to apply a similar process. You can inform us of the request by emailing admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk; please make the subject 'Special Consideration' by Friday 30 April 2021.

The following is taken from the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) guidance on special consideration [The use of the term examination will be used to represent our assessment period]:

5% This is the maximum allowance and will be reserved for the most exceptional cases, such as:



- terminal illness of the candidate;
- terminal illness of a parent/carer;
- death of a member of the immediate family within two months of the examination;
- very serious and disruptive crisis/incident at or near the time of the examination.

4% Very serious problems such as:

- life-threatening illness of candidate or member of immediate family;
- major surgery at or near the time of the examination;
- severe disease;
- very recent death of member of extended family;
- severe or permanent bodily injury occurring at the time of the examination;
- serious crisis/incident at the time of the examination.

N.B. 'Very recent' is defined as within one month of the examination(s) taking place.

3% A more common category (more cases will fall into this category) including:

- recent traumatic experience such as death of a close friend or distant relative;
- recent illness of a more serious nature;
- flare-up of a severe congenital/medical condition or a psychological condition;
- broken limbs;
- organ disease;
- physical assault trauma before an examination;
- recent crisis/incident;
- witnessing a distressing event on the day of the examination involved.

N.B. 'Recent' is defined as four months prior to the examination(s) taking place.

2% The most common category of allowance - the majority of cases will fall within this category:

- illness at the time of the examination;
- broken limb on the mend;
- concussion;
- effects of pregnancy (not pregnancy per se);
- extreme distress on the day of an examination (not simply exam related stress);

1% Reserved for more minor problems:

- stress or anxiety for which medication has been prescribed;
- minor upset arising from administrative problems.

Where the request for special consideration fails to meet the criteria it will be rejected.

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 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.”

Catering

The schedule below will resume from Monday 15 March:

	Dining Room	Lower Foyer	Field Tuk Tuk
Monday	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 8 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 7	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 9 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 10	Year 11
Tuesday	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 11 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 8	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 7 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 9	Year 10
Wednesday	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 7 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 11	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 10 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 8	Year 9
Thursday	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 10 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 9	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 11 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 7	Year 8
Friday	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 10 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 9	12:30pm-1:00pm Year 8 1:00pm-1:30pm Year 11	Year 7

The Quad Tuk Tuk is available all lunch time to all years, provided the student is wearing a face mask.

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 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.

Thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

SIMON PICKETT
Head Master