



THE KING'S SCHOOL

The King's School

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1 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I'm writing to provide comprehensive guidance on how school will operate when we start to re-open from Wednesday, 9 September. Our priority is, and continues to be, the safety and wellbeing of our community. It is of paramount importance that we get students back into school, accessing a full and comprehensive education in a safe environment. Attached to this letter is a student and parent/carers guide which goes into detail on exactly what school will look like when we re-open. Please ensure you read this carefully and discuss the information with your child.

<https://kings.patrust.org.uk/return-to-school-information/>

Our plans are based on the national guidance which can be found via the link below;

[Government guidance for full opening of schools](#)

The main principles of this guidance are;

- A requirement that people who are ill stay at home.
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene.
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements.
- Active engagement with NHS Test and Trace.
- Formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable.

As communicated by the CEO of the Trust, Mr Julian Appleyard OBE, in his letter dated 7 July, we have a robust risk assessment in place that has been validated by external health and safety consultants. In addition, the Pontefract Academies Trust Board have signed off our plans for opening.

I want to highlight some key points from our guidance;

- Do not send your child into school if they display Covid-19 symptoms, please contact school to discuss.
- If possible, explore other options for travelling to school other than public transport. However, if it isn't possible, rest assured additional safety measures are in place on school buses. Students will need to wear a face covering on the bus.
- Current guidance states that students don't need to wear face coverings in schools unless you are in a high risk area. As we are not in one of those identified areas, students will not have to wear one in school unless they choose to.
- If you need to speak to staff, please do not turn up at school in person. Please contact us on 01977 601701 or email admin@kings.patrust.org.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible in the case of an emergency, and within 24 hours for all other queries.

The government has made it clear that attendance in school is compulsory for all students and we support this decision. Current research shows that the risks Covid-19 presents to young people is minimal, particularly when considering the detrimental impact of them missing their education. The following links provide useful information and practical guidance on students returning to school.

- [Information for parents and carers about going back to schools, nurseries and colleges in the autumn term](#)
- [Public Health England – Back to School Guidance](#)

As I am sure you will agree, the last thing any of us would want is school closures in the future, however, I'd like to reassure parents we have detailed contingency plans in place if this does happen. My staff and I are really looking forward to welcoming students back into school starting from Wednesday, 9 September. I hope the content of this letter and attached guidance provide you with reassurance and details on how we have planned to do this safely.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dominic Pinto', written in a cursive style.

Dominic Pinto
Headteacher

