



# THE KING'S SCHOOL

**The King's School**

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1 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Return to School – Monday 8 March 2021**

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. You will be aware that last Monday the Government published its long-awaited guidance and plans for all students to return to school from Monday, 8 March.

With this in mind, I want to share some information with you about how the school will operate when students return to school.

### **Start Date**

All students in all year groups will return to school on Monday, 8 March. Attendance is compulsory and your child should only be absent from school if he/she has tested positive for Covid-19, is symptomatic, self-isolating or otherwise unwell.

### **School Logistics**

The school will operate in the same way as it did during the autumn term. Our priority is, and continues to be, the safety and wellbeing of our community and as such our system of controls remains in place, including staggered timings at the end of the day, year group 'bubbles' and enhanced cleaning. This will be communicated fully with students and a reminder of our logistical approach can be found on our website:

<https://kings.patrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Return-to-School-Handbook-for-All-Years-March-2021.pdf>

### **Government Guidance**

Our re-opening plans are based on the national guidance, much of the content in this guidance will be familiar to you, as it replicates what was in place during the autumn term, however the key changes to the guidance are outlined further in the letter. The government guidance can be found via the link below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/963541/Schools\\_coronavirus\\_operational\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf)

### **Risk Assessment**

We have a robust risk assessment in place which is being validated by external health and safety consultants. It will be published on our website in due course.

### **Face Coverings**

The main difference for when students return to school on Monday, 8 March is the guidance regarding face coverings. When students return they will be **required to wear a face mask over their nose and mouth at all times when inside the school building**, other than whilst eating at a dining table. This now includes **wearing face masks in lessons**. If a student has a medically diagnosed condition or disability that makes this not possible, please ensure we are aware of this by contacting the school on [admin@kings.patrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@kings.patrust.org.uk) so that we can consider whether to grant an exemption.

### **Preparing for re-opening**

In order to fully prepare staff for the re-opening of the school, there will be a staff training day on Friday, 5 March. As a result, students will still be expected to complete the work provided for all their lessons on Google Classroom but there will be no live online lessons. This only applies to Friday, 5 March.

Vulnerable students and students of key workers who have accessed our onsite provision during lockdown will still be expected to attend school and will complete the same work set by their teachers and those students accessing the work remotely.

### **Mass Testing**

As previously communicated in my letter dated Tuesday, 23 February, we will be offering asymptomatic testing to all students and staff to support the identification of otherwise undetected positive cases. Being tested is not a condition of return, but we strongly encourage it.

**We will be conducting the first of three on-site tests for those who have consented on Thursday 4 March.** If you have consented, we will contact you separately with details of the date and time of your child's first test.

### **Exam Results 2021**

We now know that results will be awarded to students by teachers, using a range of possible evidence. We await further guidance and clarity from exam boards to enable us to plan how we take this forward. As was the case last year, we will work with the sole focus of ensuring our students get the grades they deserve. The link below from the Chief Regulator explains the arrangements for 2021:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-qualifications-will-be-awarded-in-2021>

### **And Finally**

Whilst I acknowledge the huge efforts made by students, teachers and parents/carers with Remote Learning, we are excited to be able to return to face-to-face lessons in classrooms. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday, 8 March so that they can get back to the routine of normal school life, and see their friends and teachers.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. D Pinto**  
**Headteacher**