



**The King's School**

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## THE KING'S SCHOOL

23 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, that was different! What an academic year and what a challenge we have all faced! It is easy sometimes for it to all become 'the norm' but as I step back today, at the end of term and think about what we have all been through, it hits home how different it has been.

Whilst whole communities have had to adapt, I want to focus specifically on our students at The King's School. They have had to deal with so much – lockdowns, bubbles, live lessons and having restrictions on their daily norms. Despite this, their resilience, character and positive attitude has continued to shine through. I have said this on a number of occasions, but it is simply true – they are a credit to the school and to you.

As parents/carers, I thank you sincerely for the patience you have shown as guidelines, and therefore school rules have altered with very little notice. Your support and understanding have made all our jobs easier, safe in the knowledge that you have appreciated the challenges we have faced. The King's School community continues to thrive and develop and there is much more to be done here in the months and years to come.

Speaking of The King's School Community, it has been fantastic to see so many students, staff and parents/carers coming together this week for the Year 11 Prom, 'King's Fest' and the school sports day. I would like to mention King's Fest in particular. We have had so many positive messages about the event and it was great to be able to invite so many people – it was a sell-out with 600 tickets sold – and be able to showcase the talents of our students. Never has there been more of a time where this kind of event was needed and to be able to give our students the experience of performing on a professional stage in front of a crowd that big cannot be underestimated. Two years ago, I gave assurances that there will be more investment in sports and performing arts, and despite there being difficulties with Covid-19, The King's School will continue to go from strength to strength in these areas. I am excited about the relaunch of the 'Performance Academy' in September, which will develop our sports men and women in a range of sports, particularly rugby union and netball.

Despite the limited opportunity, we have continued to raise money for our dedicated charities, Motor Neurone Disease Association and The Prince of Wales Hospice. King's Fest raised over £1,200 from our various stalls and we will continue to support these worthy causes in the future.

Whilst no guarantees can be made, I sincerely hope that we are in a position to re-introduce trips, visits and more extra-curricular activities next year. You will be aware that on an annual basis we take our students on a ski trip, visit New York, Iceland and Belgium to name but a few and I hope these cultural experiences can be had by our students once again.

### End of Term Arrangements

Please be reminded that school will close for the summer holidays today, 23 July at 3.05pm. School reception will be closed from this time for the duration of the summer. The admin email inbox will be checked intermittently throughout the holidays.

## Start of Term Arrangements

**We have made a slight alteration for the start of the new academic year which is that students are required to be on-site and at school for 8.55am.** We are keeping our morning congregation areas as they have worked so well and this will allow students to line-up and be in the classroom ready to learn at 9.00am.

The table below outlines the key dates for returning to school in September:

Date	Activity
Friday 3 September	Pre-return Covid-19 testing for students. (See letter dated 15 July) <i>Note: For those who have given consent, you will be send a reminder message on Thursday 2 September.</i>
Monday 6 September	INSET Day – Staff only
Tuesday 7 September	INSET Day – Staff only Pre-return Covid-19 testing for students. (Second test for those consenting).
Wednesday 8 September	School re-opens to all students

## Final Reminders

The smartness of our students is regularly commented on by members of the public and we take great pride in this. Please take the time to review our uniform policy - [Uniform : The King's School \(patrust.org.uk\)](http://Uniform : The King's School (patrust.org.uk)) Please ensure that you check items carefully, in particular skirts, trousers and shoes. We do carry out uniform checks on a regular basis and do not want parents/carers to pay for items that would not be suitable or needed. As previously communicated, we did start discussions about a potential change in tie but have decided now is not the right time and our current tie will remain for 2021-22.

All students will be expected to have equipment ready for the start of the term. This would be a school bag, black pens, a pencil, ruler, purple pen and rubber. All students will be given a planner where they will continue to record homework and achievement points.

Thank you for your time in reading this and I would like to reiterate my thanks to you for your support, understanding this year and your contributions to school life. I hope that you all have a great break and have the opportunity to spend some time with family – also that the rumours of a second heatwave are true!

I look forward to welcoming all students back in September where hopefully we can have a clear run at a full academic year and support all our students in reaching their full potential.

Yours faithfully,



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