

6 November 2020

## COVID Updates – National Lockdown

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for all your support in making this first week back at school very successful.

There are some points relating to the new national guidance this week that I want to make parents aware of:

1. Academic enrichments that are directly linked to the curriculum (so essentially like lessons) can remain, which is great news. This includes all academic interventions and societies. **However, enrichments which fall into the category of “after school clubs” are paused from today until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.** Parents can view a list of what is still running [here](#) and students will be advised by their form tutors. We hope all enrichments can resume on 11<sup>th</sup> January and we will use the same registers we currently have – students will not have to pick again, unless there are new enrichments we are introducing at that time.
2. All youth support services – for example mentoring and counselling (including from external agencies) – can continue as normal. As can all music instrumental lessons.
3. Masks are now compulsory in communal areas for all UK schools – previously it was just Tier 2 and 3, and at KAA we have had masks in communal areas since September anyway. **Students must comply with this rule – it is not a KAA rule, it is the UK law - and only with an official exemption can a student be permitted not to wear a mask.** Thank you.
4. The new guidance emphasises further evidence of the virus being **very low risk to students.** Unlike the first lockdown, clinically extremely vulnerable and clinically vulnerable students need to attend school. Clinicians are clear that absence from school will cause much bigger health risks for these young people. It is only if you have an official letter from the NHS about your vulnerability that you can miss school. If a child lives with someone who is vulnerable they must still attend school – they should take precautions at home of course, but cannot be absent given the damage this will cause to their health, wellbeing and future.
5. In general, all aspects of the school curriculum remain unchanged – essentially we just need to keep following the COVID secure measures we have been since the start of term.

With best wishes,



**David Benson**  
Principal