

Principal's Update – 28 January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Please see below some key updates.

Return to School

The Prime Minister has confirmed schools won't re-open to all students until **Monday 8th March at the earliest**. We are making further improvements to remote learning as a result of this announcement, taking on board feedback from the recent survey we sent to Y7, 8 and 9 parents. We will write to you about these next week.

Contingency School

Many students are eligible to attend our Contingency School – for example, those who can't learn productively at home, or who have parents who are classified as "key workers" (<https://rb.gy/qget9i>). If you want your child to attend, please email their Director of Learning via info@kaa.org.uk and we will consider if they meet the criteria.

Rapid Covid Testing

Please can all parents take 5 minutes to watch this important video on the rapid Covid testing centre we operate. I'd appreciate if you could watch with your child. Students attending Contingency School can use this service now, others will benefit when they return.

KAA Rapid Test Centre: <https://youtu.be/UkK6FRzIWQw>

Once you have watched, please take a moment to give your consent for your child to be tested (if you have filled this in already, you do not need to repeat).

Consent Form: <https://forms.gle/Jkw2GKrKKanqrxiF7>

Full details of the UK government's policy on rapid Covid testing in schools can be found on our website here: <https://kaa.org.uk/students-parents/rapid-covid-testing/>

Social Media

Unfortunately, we have seen an increase in students swapping abuse and sharing inappropriate content on social media. In some cases this has led to fixed-term and even permanent exclusions. I cannot emphasise strongly enough that students must not, under any circumstances, make racist, sexist, homophobic or bullying / abusive comments to each other. Please check what your child is doing online – you pay the bills, you are entitled to supervise their use of Snap Chat, WhatsApp and other platforms. We are producing some simple "how to" videos for parents that offer some advice on this point – the technology moves fast, and we could all use some tips on this I'm sure.

More generally, I want to **thank all parents for their support during the current lockdown**. We are aware how hard the current circumstances can be for students and parents, and we are here to help. The good news is that where students are engaging fully with remote learning – either from home or the Contingency School – they are still making good progress, and keeping in touch with their teachers and each other. We just need to keep going, at least for a while longer.

Best wishes,



David Benson
Principal