

Wednesday 20th May

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly I wish to thank you for all your support and hard work in supporting the education of your children at home. The large number of parents who have collected work and exercise books has really supported us in getting materials home to students quickly and it was lovely to just be able to say hello and have a chat with many of you. The overwhelming support my staff and I have received as been incredibly touching.

There has been much media coverage over the past ten days about the gradual reopening of schools. I enclose a letter from Surrey County Council regarding their current position in which it recognises a need for a planned approach, taking into consideration local context. For Kings International this means that we are being asked to offer some “face to face” provision for Year 10 students (though not a return to timetabled lessons) I want to start by stating that it is my sincere desire to see the school return to some form of normality as soon as possible. My paramount concern will always be the safety of students and staff, so we will only make changes to our provision when I am confident that we can do so safely. We are currently working on our plans for Year 10 but are still awaiting the guidance from the DfE on secondary schools which has been delayed. The direction we have received from the Government has not yet provided complete clarity and has been subject to revision this week. We are still expecting further information. As a result of these external pressures and conscious that I want to get this decision right. I am therefore not in a position to confirm any “face to face” sessions at this point and hope to be able to confirm our provision for this after 3rd June subject to receiving the guidance needed, risk assessments and confirmation from the local authority and the government.

To support us in our planning for Year 10 we firstly need to establish how many students need to access our keyworker and vulnerable student provision from 1st June.

Key Worker and Vulnerable Student Provision

We continue to offer daily provision for over 30 vulnerable and key worker children who complete the same remote learning work set for all students under supervision. In the last few days we have experienced a rise in the requests for places as many keyworker parents who had previously been able to keep their children at home now require a space. In order to ensure that we can maintain a safe provision with appropriate staffing levels **If you will be requiring a key worker place for your child from any Year group from 1st June please complete this survey before 3pm on 22nd May:**

<https://tinyurl.com/kingsparentform>

Please read the below guidance about children who are classed as extremely critically vulnerable or live with a parent or carer who is extremely critical vulnerable.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing>

If your child has an EHCP or a social worker we will be contacting you directly before Friday to discuss your child’s provision.

We have consulted the parents and carers who are using this provision and they have confirmed that they do not require us during the half-term break. Therefore we will be closed for the week beginning 25th May and I am grateful for their support with this.

Home Learning after half term

It is clear from the current Government guidance that the vast majority of students in Years 7 to 9 and for at least part of their timetables, Year 10, will continue to work from home. Whilst most students have been engaging with remote learning, there has been some variation in the extent of that. We know that many parents are slightly nervous about the quality and extent of their child's work. I am in the same boat with my daughter's work from her school and would welcome some feedback on her progress. To help with this we instigated the use of Microsoft Quizzes from the 18th May and voice over PowerPoints accessible via phones. I am aware from the Facebook page for the Kings Learning Hub that there have been some technical issues due to the way they have been made but as we get used to the technology we hope to get better at this. The quizzes allow us to establish if the students are learning from the work they have been asked to complete. I think that some of our Year 10 have believed they could jump straight to the quizzes and not do the lessons this week, not surprisingly they have not been scoring too highly. We are also aware that some students are not overtly demonstrating to their parents that they are doing work but yet we are regularly seeing that they are logging in daily. We will be collecting some simple engagement information from students in the hope that we can use this to report back to parents to provide reassurance or if needed address any serious concerns.

Contact Home

We are still going to carry on with weekly contact via form tutors - in most cases this will continue to be an email communication and if parents or students wish for additional contact/support with us we will follow up with a call, as required. If your child does not respond to their tutor, a follow up call will be made by a member of staff to you as the parent or carer.

If your circumstances have recently changed and you believe that you may now be eligible for Free School Meals please complete the form held at https://www.kingsinternational.co.uk/uploads/1/1/8/7/118746955/free_school_meal_pupil_premium_application_form.pdf

Once completed, please return the form to school – it must be fully completed for us to process.

Those in receipt of Free School Meal vouchers will continue to receive them weekly for the foreseeable future.

For up to date information please visit <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Lastly I would like to reiterate that no home learning will be set during half term and to wish you all a restful and stress free week.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J. Luhman
Headteacher