



Monday 22nd February 2021

Dear parent and carers

I hope this fourth letter of the school lockdown finds you and your family safe and well.

For ease of reference all previous communications regarding the Covid 19 Pandemic and Kenton School can be found www.kenton.newcastle.sch.uk/copy-of-letters-for-parents

The focus of this letter is to help you understand:

What we know about the tentative March 8th reopening
How we are supporting your child with their mental health
Online feedback to support your child's learning
That we will also be sharing a survey link to gain your views on future proofing the school post covid

Week 6 of remote learning started Monday February 22nd

Students should follow the timetables in the February folder of the KLZ. Just like a normal school day, routines are important. The video in the link below provides some suggestions and you'll see we've already put some of these in place for you with our timetable and daily English and maths.

<https://youtu.be/MO9SDGRgi3c>

What we know about the tentative March 8th reopening

At the time of wording this letter we do not have any further information regarding the reopening. Other than when the Government indicates it is safe for schools to reopen fully we will have two weeks' notice to organise what needs to be done; including the plans for mass testing of students.

We will endeavour to share both the risk assessments and plans as soon as we have confirmation.

Please can you ensure you have provided consent for your child to be involved with the mass testing (consent form can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/KentonTestingPermission>).

The test aims to stop the spread of COVID-19 in people who do not have symptoms by identifying them, isolating them and breaking chains of transmission. We have many staff fully trained to support and the test is quick and easy for your child to self-administer.

How we are supporting your child with their mental health

We hope you found the information shared on social media regarding Children's Mental Health Week useful. We continue to offer support for you and your children. In response to this extraordinary lockdown we face and the feedback from parents in recent surveys **we would like all pupils to undertake a short online survey** regarding any anxieties, concerns or mental health issues they may currently be facing. The link below will take you to the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W1KS21>. From the responses the school and Aiding Minds will

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identify further layers of support for individual pupils. If you do have any immediate concerns about mental health or anything regarding pupil anxiety please contact your child's Year Leader on the email address in the box lower down in the letter.

Online feedback to support your child's learning

There are three ways in which children get feedback from their teachers. The first is day to day when they email work to their teachers, teachers will respond with an acknowledgement email which will normally recognise good work and provide a prompt to improve if appropriate. The use of MS Forms and GCSE Pod quizzes as part of lessons and at the end of a series of lessons allows teachers to assess the learning of the and the class, amend future plans accordingly, and also to provide feedback to individuals through the GCSE Pod and MS Forms platforms. Thirdly, teachers continue to provide detailed feedback after key pieces of work which could, for example, be an essay or a test. This feedback is often in the form of a whole class feedback slide which identifies common problems and highlights excellent work but could also be in the form of an email with feedback specific to the individual. It is important that students engage with feedback and carry out any follow-on activities for it to be an effective process.

Links for parents' and students' surveys of future proofing the school

As you know we have put many new systems and structures in place to keep your child safe in this Covid climate. Not only has the impact of this been keeping your child safe from Covid we have also seen that:

Punctuality to lessons has improved significantly
Behavioural incidents have reduced significantly
Student voice indicates the students feel safer, the building is calmer, that they feel proud to be member of Kenton School
Teachers feel they can focus more on teaching and learning

Parents have been equally positive in previous surveys.

We have created two surveys asking for your opinions and your child's opinion regarding the changes we implemented that made the school 'Covid' safe. We are keen to gather your views to help plan to make the changes more permanent, links can be found on Kenton School Facebook page and also on Kenton school website:

Student survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=pX0Jcsl1XE2dzBedkfqYun2Zuabjhw5KmKT3Omnb06ZUNUVOUTFFU08yWldIMEpBUkpUVVhLTkowWS4u>

Parent survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=pX0Jcsl1XE2dzBedkfqYun2Zuabjhw5KmKT3Omnb06ZUQ0pXNDhDTIEyQ1NPNzJMVTICskILVjdSUS4u>

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Email contacts for concerns about learning

Useful email contacts regarding your child's learning whilst at home

- Y7: Sarah.Rice@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 Y8 and Y9: Claire.Gibson@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 Y10: Ross.Scherer@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 Y11: James.Robinson@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 P16: Stephen.Ord@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk

If you have concerns about **any aspect** of home learning please email the point of contact above.

Email contacts for concerns about welfare including mental health or if you have a safeguarding concern about any aspect of home learning.

Year 7	Mr Ferguson - Angus.Ferguson@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk Miss Wilson - Connie.Wilson@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 8	Mrs Rutherford - Jannene.Rutherford@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk Mr Antony - Paul.Antony@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 9	Mr Turnbull - Nigel.Turnbull@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk Mrs Angus - Alison.Angus@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 10	Mr Bouleau - Andre.Bouleau@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk Mrs Hunter - Jocelyn.Hunter@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 11	Mr Allan - Matthew.Allan@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk Mrs Bartram - Tracey.Bartram@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 12/13	Miss Philson - Lisa.Philson@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk

I hope that my next letter to you will be confirming the reopening plans. I can speak on behalf of every member of Kenton School staff; we have missed all of our students and we cannot wait for the school building to be full again.

Thank you for both your continued support and kind messages, they are appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

S Holmes-Carne

Sarah Holmes-Carne
Principal

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