



Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear parent and carers

I hope this second 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 at www.kenton.newcastle.sch.uk/copy-of-letters-for-parents.

The focus of this letter is to help you understand how your child will be given feedback on their learning, how we are keeping in touch with your child and how you can support your child with internet safety whilst at home

Week 4 of remote learning started Monday January 25th

Students should follow the timetables in the January 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/MO9SDGRqj3c>

Internet safety leaflet

The nature of home learning will inevitably mean your child spends more time than usual accessing the internet. Please can I ask you to read through the leaflet enclosed and to spend time talking to your child about which websites they have accessed and for you yourself to check their internet search history. It is also important that you take the time to scrutinise any social media sites e.g. Tik Tok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter to ensure their followers and who they are following are people known to them.

It has been noted that nationally since the first lockdown there has been an increase in unscrupulous people contacting children. Please ensure you feel confident that your child is safe whilst online.

Contact with home

You should by now have been contacted by your child's form tutor or year leader **on numerous occasions**. They will continue to call at least weekly during the school closure so please pick up the phone if you see the school number or a withheld number calling you... it could be a member of our team contacting you from off-site. If we are unable to contact, you by phone or email, **we will need to carry out a home visit**.

Remember, if we can't check that the students are engaging with home learning, they will be classed as absent so please email us or phone during school hours if you have not already spoken to a member of staff.

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How your child is given feedback on their learning

We have identified three tiers of feedback between students and staff during remote learning:

- 1) **Day in day out** – Students will be asked to submit photographs of work of which they are particularly proud. They may also email in a Word Document, for example. Teachers will acknowledge and celebrate these photographs by responding to students via email and in some cases championing on school social media.
- 2) **Weekly** – We will be setting quizzes, multiple choice questions and tasks on MS Forms or GCSEPod. Students complete these tasks online and teachers can instantly see which students have engaged with them and how well they have done. This is invaluable feedback to teachers in their planning of future lessons.
- 3) **Every several weeks** (The weighting of this depends on the subject – English and maths will issue more than the non-core subjects, for example). Here teachers set work in line with key pieces of work that have been identified for deeper marking in normal schooling. This may be a longer, extended piece of writing, for example. Students may be asked to submit this on GCSEPod or via email. Staff then read all of their classes work before responding with whole-class and/or individual feedback depending on whether errors are common to many students or unique to individuals. Teachers may include this feedback in the following week's PowerPoints on the KLZ or may choose to email their classes directly.

Teams form time and Teams subject drop ins

Although we remain convinced of the merits of on-demand lessons we are nonetheless developing some 'live' provision where appropriate. Two areas where we believe there is scope for 'live' contact are in **form time** and live **drop-in sessions in the 6th form**. At an agreed time, staff will see their classes to check progress, deal with misconceptions and teach some of the new learning content of lessons for the coming week. In both cases live lessons will be delivered using Microsoft Teams - we are a Microsoft not a Google school - and these lessons will be subject to our strict remote learning policy. We ask that you talk to your child(ren) about the Teams etiquette described below:

1. Make sure you are appropriately dressed and in a suitable venue, not a bedroom. You must be in a 'shared' space in the home, not a private one.
2. Use a blurred background if using video. Protect your privacy and that of your family
3. Remember that like a normal lesson our school behavior policy applies in full.
4. Do not communicate with other members of the group unless asked to do so, this would be like talking over the teacher in class.
5. Remember this is being recorded for safety reasons.
6. Please remain 'present' in the lesson. Do not multi-task and do avoid distractions. Mobile phones should be out of reach during the session.
7. Make sure an adult from your house knows that you are in a live lesson.
8. Remember online etiquette. A screen and keyboard does not give you the right to lower your behavior standards.

GCSE POD form time

We are very keen to continue to deliver areas of the curriculum such as personal development, well-being and citizenship. We would also like to be certain that our students are engaged with their days'

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learning every morning. To meet both of these needs we have launched form time on GCSEPod (For Years 7-11) It is imperative that your child has logged in and created their username and password as we are now using GCSEPod to 'register' student engagement and to deliver aspects of the non-subject-based curriculum. Log on details can be found at the KLZ link, 1.User Guides at www.kenton.newcastle.sch.uk/kenton-learning-zone.

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

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
Year10	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 would like to reiterate my previous gratitude for the kindness you have shown to the staff of Kenton School. Every email, social media message, telephone call where you pass on your thanks is appreciated by us all in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

S Holmes-Carne

Sarah Holmes-Carne
Principal

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