



21 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you so much for all the support you have offered the school over the course of the past year. It has made so much difference to staff's ability to find the energy, courage and flexibility to hopefully do their very best for your child. A warm welcome if you are reading this as the parent/carer of a new Year 7 student in September.

The Government has issued guidance for schools regarding how schools should operate in September as part of the national Step 4 arrangements and we are now able to confirm ours for the start of the new academic year. These are our current plans which could change in the light of government advice. Please do keep your eye on your emails towards the end of the school holidays for any updates. National information on schools reopening can be found [here](#) and this information should be read in conjunction with that sent out by us on Friday 16 July concerning revised arrangements for contact tracing.

Main Messages

- Attendance in school for all students in September is mandatory
- From 19 July onwards schools are no longer expected to trace close contacts of positive cases
- In September students no longer have to remain in 'bubbles' or self-isolate if they have been a close contact of a positive case
- There is no longer a requirement to wear a face covering by law
- On site testing will take place at the start of term

Having said this, we have taken time to revise our risk assessment carefully and consider the ways we can continue to balance best practice teaching and learning with student and staff health and wellbeing. Our revised Robert Carre Trust Risk Assessment can be found on our website [here](#). We hope the following information in addition reassures you that we will return to some kind of educational normality in carefully considered steps following the government guidelines and that we will be ready to 'step up' or 'step down' our response at any point in the light of any unforeseen developments such as a local outbreak.

The School Day

The timings of the school day have been slightly revised compared to pre pandemic times.

Session	Times
First Bell	8.40
Tutor time	8.45 - 9.05
Period 1	9.10 - 10.10
Period 2	10.15 - 11.15
Break 1	11.15 - 11.40
Period 3	11.40 - 12.40
Break 2	12.40 - 13.25
Period 4	13.25 - 14.25
Period 5	14.30 - 15.30

Whilst students no longer have to remain in 'bubbles' we will continue to provide distinct outside spaces for each Key Stage, and group tutor rooms together inside the building in order to help students continue to feel a sense of ownership of their areas. Students will be encouraged to be outside during breaks unless it is wet or extremely cold and classrooms will be well ventilated. Students will be expected to use the outside sinks to wash hands in the morning on arrival and will be encouraged to take personal responsibility for regular hand washing throughout the day. If your child would like to use hand sanitiser in classrooms, we encourage them to bring their own supply to school with them. Sanitiser will continue to be available in public spaces such as the dining room and library.

Dining Arrangements

The school dining room will resume its full service, with students choosing to 'eat in' rather than 'grab and go' able to do so. Students eating packed lunches will do so in the school hall but also have access to the dining room for the last 20 minutes of Break 2 if they prefer.

Uniform

Having trialled the wearing of PE kit to school by necessity, we plan to continue with this in September. It is popular with students who have worn their PE kit smartly in line with the uniform regulations and maximises the time available for physical activity during PE lessons. PE kit should only be worn to school on days when formal PE lessons are timetabled. Students participating in PE clubs or after school training will still need to come to school in normal uniform and bring their kit with them to change into. Please do check the uniform regulations [here](#) if you are unsure. Students will need a pair of black running leggings or tracksuit bottoms. Full 'normal' uniform should be worn on day 1 of term by all year groups.

Face Coverings

Wearing a face covering on school buses will be an expectation still, otherwise we respect the personal choice of those who choose to wear a face covering in enclosed or crowded spaces in school.

Testing and Tracing

On your child's return to school they will undertake two lateral flow tests on site in our school sports hall. These will take place on Thursday 2 September for Years 7, 11, 12 and 13, their first day of term.

Year 8, 9 and 10 will return to school on Friday 3 September and will undertake a test that day. Second tests will take place the following Monday and Tuesday respectively. All Sixth Formers will take tests at their base school site before attending lessons across the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form on Thursday from Period 3 onwards.

We need to collect consent data from

- Parents/Carers of new Year 7 students
- Students who have joined or are joining the school in any other years since 1 March 2021
- All Year 12 students (due to possible changes of base school since Year 11)
- Any parent/carer who has changed their mobile number since the permission form was last completed

Please complete this [Consent Form for Covid-19 testing September 2021](#) if any of the above apply to you as soon as possible and certainly by 22 August 2021.

After the completion of the onsite testing, twice weekly Lateral Flow testing on a Wednesday and Sunday evening will remain highly encouraged for all staff and secondary age students. This policy will be reviewed at the end of September 2021 by the government. Test kits will be once again supplied in school from the start of term.

Please also note that

- Students do not need to submit any Lateral Flow test results online to the school or NHS over the summer holidays
- In September close contacts of positive cases are expected to attend school unless a PCR test taken within 48 hours of being a close contact is also positive, or the close contact themselves starts to experience symptoms. Please refer to our previous letter on the school website for further information on self-isolation and contact tracing
- Please be aware that online work or live streaming of lessons will only be available for those students who are off school because they are Covid positive or awaiting the results of a PCR test (and they feel well enough to work) from September.

What else do I need to know ready for the start of the new academic year?

- Positive parental feedback means that we will continue to deliver most parents evenings via video call using SchoolCloud software. Instructions on how to use this will be sent to all parents/carers again at the relevant point of the year
- The school calendar is accessible [here](#): you are able to subscribe to it if you would like easy access on a mobile device
- The [school mobile phone policy](#) must be followed by all students and can be found on our school website
- The after-school homework club in the library takes place from the end of school until 4.30pm Monday - Friday. If you wish to book a place for your child in September please contact enquiries@kshs.uk. There is no additional cost for this.

And Finally...

I wish you and your family a safe and healthy summer break. If you have any queries, we will do our best to answer them via enquiries@kshs.uk though please be aware that responses during the school holidays will be less regular.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Smith
Head of School