



26 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back to school from 8 March onwards. I hope the information below is helpful and reassures you that we are ready and prepared for face to face learning once again. A separate letter will be sent to parents/carers of students taking GCSEs, BTECs or A levels this year regarding the government's update on how grades will be awarded.

### Lateral Flow tests

All students are offered three lateral flow tests over the course of their first 10 days back in school. Whilst these tests are optional, we hope that as many of you as possible will take up the offer. Mass testing of the school population necessitates a staggered return and below you can see which day each year group should return on.

The first week back in school is as follows:

Year Group	Date of return to school and first test	Date of test 2	Date of test 3
Year 11, 12 and 13	Mon 8 March 8.45am	Thurs 11 March	Tue 16 March
Year 9 and 10 (remote live lessons will take place on Mon 8 March)	Tues 9 March 8.45am	Fri 12 March	Wed 17 March
Year 7 and 8 (remote live lessons will take place on Mon 8 March and Tues 9 March)	Wed 9 March 8.45am	Mon 15 March	Thurs 18 March
Key worker and vulnerable students who have attended previously should continue to attend from 8 March onwards. Having been tested regularly they will undertake tests along with their own year group from 8 March onwards			

To take part in the lateral flow tests parents/carers (or sixth form students themselves) must have provided consent to the school in advance. Please ensure you have completed [this consent form](#) for each child that attends either Kesteven and Sleaford High School or Carre's Grammar School by noon on Monday 1 March so we can complete the necessary administration required. Sixth form students can also access the same link via their school email address. Students with no consent (or those sixth formers who have not provided consent themselves) will not be able to access a test without prior consent being given and we will assume that consent has not been given if the form is not returned.

Whilst many of you completed a similar form back in December, some personal circumstances may have changed since then. For this reason, the consent form contains some additional questions and is designed to help us register students for tests as efficiently as possible. All parents/carers are asked to complete it to give (or withdraw) their consent.

Lateral flow tests are designed to identify asymptomatic cases and are not a replacement for a test: should your child display any symptoms or should there be a positive case in your household, your child should not come to school.

**After the first day back in school all students should attend every day unless:**

- they have one or more coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- they have had a positive test

### **Continuation of Covid safety precautions**

The safety precautions we have had in place since September will continue with some additions in line with government guidance. The existing measures include:

- Minimising contact between year group 'bubbles' and wherever possible limiting 'bubbles' to form groups
- 'Zoning' form rooms for each tutor group in specific areas of the school building
- Minimising the mixing of students in other year groups in morning tutor time, at break and at lunchtime by designating zoned areas in the school grounds for outside recreation
- Scheduled access to the dining room by means of a rota system whereby students can access the servery via separate year group queues and different access points at one of two break times in the school day. Take away food only will be available to all years and provision will be made for free school meal students and those with specific dietary needs for medical reasons every day
- Years 7–9 will have access to buy food at Break 1 and Years 10–13 during Break 2
- Access to the LRC on certain days for certain year groups
- Staggering the end of the school day by five minutes so that the departure from school can be managed more easily. Students arrival at school is staggered anyway
- Students sitting side by side facing the front of the class wherever possible
- Classrooms will be ventilated with doors and/or windows open to promote the circulation of air. When this makes the classroom cold students will, with staff's permission, be able to wear their school coat in addition to layer under their blazer to include a black v neck jumper
- On days when students have PE on their class timetable, they can come to school in their PE kit to minimise busy changing room contact. (This does not apply on days when students are simply taking part in an extra-curricular club at breaktime or after school). Legs need to be covered to ensure safety in other practical lessons e.g. Science

### **Face Coverings**

Students and staff will now be required to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. Face coverings will also be worn by adults and students when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils when outdoors on the premises. If your daughter/son is exempt from wearing a face covering due to medical reasons, please inform us via email at [enquiries@kshs.uk](mailto:enquiries@kshs.uk). If we are not advised that there is an exemption, the expectation is that students will wear a face covering as detailed above.

Please can you ensure that your daughter/son has at least two face coverings with them at all times, so that they have a spare should they lose or forget one. Unfortunately, the school does not have enough supplies to keep giving spares to students should they need a replacement.

### **Some reminders**

- Should a student be a close contact of a student who has tested positive parents/carers will be notified of their need to self-isolate immediately for 10 days by the school. In this instance remote learning will be available

- The [school mobile phone policy](#) must be followed by all students and can be found on our school website
- Only essential visitors can come onto the school site, and this is by appointment only
- Parents/Carers should not come onto the site without an appointment and most contact will be by phone or by video call

### **School Transport**

The education transport network will operate in full from 8 March 2021 for all eligible children. This should only be used where absolutely necessary to reduce interactions between pupils. Please transport your children to school wherever possible. The Council has updated its information page for parents and carers. Please visit <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport/covid-19-information-school-transport> for more information.

### **Risk Assessment**

An updated risk assessment can be found on the school website from 5 March onwards ([COVID-19 Risk Assessment](#))

### **Lessons**

A return to face to face teaching, and the requirement for all students to return to school, means that remote learning will only be provided for those students who are required to self-isolate for Covid related reasons. As in the Autumn term staff will in this instance either:

- Invite a student to connect live with the face to face lesson via Teams
- Access work to complete which will be loaded onto Teams by 6pm on the evening of the day the student is absent. In this instance please appreciate the student will be working one day behind their peers and staff will be busy engaged in face to face teaching throughout the day.

From 8 March onwards we will resume our track and trace system in line with Government instruction and ask parents/carers to contact the school to inform us of a positive Covid case so that we can identify any close contacts. Close contacts will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from contact with the positive student and remote learning will be put in place. Out of hours parents/carers should inform us of a positive case via [covid19@kshs.uk](mailto:covid19@kshs.uk) or call 07702 899413.

### **Live Webinar registration**

Don't forget to register for Monday's bespoke live webinar for all Robert Carre Trust parents/carers of students in Years 7-11. We have engaged 'Maximise your Potential' who have also worked with students this year, to offer parents/carers insights into how to support their child both academically and pastorally in these strangest of times. Do join in at 7pm on 1 March. [Click here to register for this free event](#). More details are attached.

### **Online Safety**

Please find attached the fourth and final part of our guide for parents/carers on keeping your child safe online.

I hope this provides enough detail for you to be reassured that we are ready and waiting to receive students back into school as safely as possible. We are certainly delighted to return to in school teaching as well as give students the chance to be together and get involved in the academic, extra-curricular and pastoral benefits that school life can offer them.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Smith  
Head of School