



17th July 2020

Dear Parents,

Update on the reopening of Kingsbury High School in September 2020

I hope that this finds you and your family safe and well.

Return to school

The Department of Education (DfE) has declared that schools should open from September and that all students in all year groups in England should return. To accompany this the Government has issued guidance to headteachers and school leaders.

We have of course been open for the whole of lockdown for children of key workers and vulnerable students and, more recently, welcomed students from Year 10 and 12 back for lessons. These have gone well, and safely, and it has been fantastic having students back in school and learning. We would now like to let you know our plans for welcoming all students back in September.

The Governing Board of Kingsbury High School has reviewed our arrangements and signed off the risk assessment including the actions and controls we have in place to minimise the risk of transmission. A copy of our plan is available: www.kingsburyhigh.org.uk/covid19news

Our Plans to keep Staff and Students Safe

These plans have been developed using the Government guidance and in consideration of our site, size and location. The plans are grouped around 9 key control areas for minimising the risk of transmission. These are:

1. Providing information/signage and instructions
2. Handwashing, cleaning and hygiene (see also the essential items list)
3. Minimising crowding and large gatherings
4. Minimising cross contact between student groups (sometimes called 'bubbles')
5. Dealing with a suspected case
6. Teaching and learning, classrooms and offices
7. Personal protective equipment (PPE)
8. Monitoring to check that the controls are in place
9. Everyone, staff, students and parents* playing their part

Should a positive case/test occur at the school, we are required to contact Public Health England. They will give the school advice and direction.

The Home/School agreement which explains how you and your child can play your part in keeping everyone safe maybe found [here](#).

Essential equipment and hygiene

To avoid unnecessary sharing of equipment and to protect your child, please ensure they have the full list of essential items every day (see [here](#)). This includes new items for 2020/21: a set of colouring pencils and a glue stick. Additionally, we also request each student has a small pack of tissues and a bottle of hand sanitiser for their personal use. Additional hand sanitiser dispensers and boxes of tissues the school will be provided. From September 2020 chewing gum will not be permitted on site.

Transport to and from School

At the end of the day there will be a staggered finish for students with different year groups leaving per the schedule below to avoid large numbers exiting at the same time.

3:20pm	Year 7
3:30pm	Year 8, Year 10 and Year 12
3:40pm	Year 9, Year 11 and Year 13

May I remind you that, in line with current guidance, we want to encourage students not to use public transport to get to and from school. For those students who must use the bus or underground, a reminder that the government has announced that wearing a face covering will be mandatory on public transport in England from 15 June.

If you intend to drop your son/daughter at school by car, please note that the Local Authority are increasing parking restrictions in the immediate vicinity. This is to discourage drop off and reduce crowding and traffic around schools. Please arrange drop off away from the school in a safe spot if you do intend to drive your child here.

Face coverings

Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. This is because in schools, pupils and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. The DfE also states that there may also be negative effects on communication and thus education. At Kingsbury High School we will not be allowing students to wear face masks or other coverings from September. Of course, if the guidance is amended over the summer, we will let you know of any change to this position.

Uniform and mobile devices

In September we expect all students to return wearing full school uniform. A copy of our uniform rules may be accessed [here](#). May I also remind you that mobile phones and other electronic devices are not permitted to be visible or used on site at any time. Removing these last year had a very positive impact on learning and focus and gave young people a break from the pressures of being in constant access to social media etc.

Dates of Return

Year 7*:	Monday 7 th September	10:00am – 2:00pm
	Tuesday 8 th September	10:00am – 2:00pm
Year 8:	Tuesday 8 th September	09:00am – 1:00pm
Year 9:	Tuesday 8 th September	11:00am – 3:00pm
Year 10:	Tuesday 8 th September	09:00am – 1:00pm
Year 11*:	Monday 7 th September	10:00am – 2:00pm
	Tuesday 8 th September	10:00am – 2:00pm
Year 12:	Thursday 3 rd September	Enrolment (by appointment)
	Tuesday 8 th September	Induction 1:30pm – 3:30pm
Year 13:	Tuesday 8 th September	Induction 9:30 – 1:00pm

*Note: Students in Year 7 and Year 11 must attend at these times on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th. Normal lessons resume for ALL students on Wednesday 9th September at 8:30am with the exception of Year 12 who start lessons on Thursday 10th September.

Attendance and Punctuality

We understand that with the whole school community returning to lessons, it may raise some uncertainty. This is perfectly normal for all of us. The Government is clear that all students must return to minimise the impact on their education and wellbeing. The DfE guidance says:

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence; and*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.*

In-line with guidance from the DfE, **term time leave cannot be authorised**. If you are planning an overseas holiday or travel, you must ensure that your child is back in the UK by 23rd August so that, if they need to quarantine, they can, but still return to school on time. If a student's attendance falls to 90% or below they are considered 'persistently absent'. Further absences would be unauthorised unless medical evidence was provided. The matter will also be referred to the Educational Welfare Officer which could result in a fine and possible court action. If there is a good reason to report your child absent, please email khsattendance@kingsburyhigh.org.uk before 8.30am.

Year 8 Immunisations

Naturally the focus on the NHS has been over recent months the fight against COVID 19 and we salute our NHS heroes for all their dedication and support. One of the impacts of this, however, has been that routine health checks and injections have been postponed. Your son/daughter was due to have the HPV vaccination in school this year. This vaccination protects both children from a number of cancers and it is an important part of the fight against cancer. The Immunisation Team are offering the chance for all Year 8 students to have the vaccination within their clinics during the summer holidays. **To arrange a clinic appointment please contact the Immunisation Team on 01895 485 740 for July 2020 and for August 2020 please phone 0203 317 5076.** You can also discuss this with your GP who can also advise you about how your child can get this vaccination.

Once again thank you for all your support in this difficult and stressful time. I hope that you have a restful summer. We are really looking forward to seeing your son and/or daughter back in school and continuing to deliver a fantastic offer for them.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Thomas
Headteacher