

The King's Chronicles



No.19 Week 23 1-5 March 2021

Return Next Week Rapid Testing and In-Class Wearing of Face-Coverings

We are delighted to confirm that students are scheduled for return to a full curriculum, requiring all usual books, kit and equipment and according to normal uniform and appearance rules, at school next week. Individual letters have been emailed separately with dates and times of return. A full schedule of return dates is also [here](#).

Most students will be experiencing our 'lateral flow device' Testing Centre (the Sports Hall) for the first time, to help screen for asymptomatic cases of Covid-19. Thank you to all students and staff who assisted yesterday's full-scale rehearsal of this, ready for Monday when Y11/12/13 return.

Within classrooms, it is now highly recommended that, until Easter in the first instance, unless 2m distancing can be maintained, students wear masks in classrooms as fully as possible out of responsibility towards their neighbours and the wider community. Students may determine the extent to which they can manage this and no student will be sanctioned for not wearing their mask.

We greatly look forward to welcoming students back, and to helping them adjust, recognising the range of experiences and difficulties that many have been encountered over recent months.

Mr Dawes– Principal

Latest news...?

This newsletter is now well established, and we are very grateful to the many staff (and sometimes students as well) who have contributed so extensively and effectively. I do owe particular thanks to Mrs Thorpe, as she has instigated, prompted and collected the vast majority of the content– and has also done a lot of the editing as well. It would certainly not be what it is without her leadership role in putting it together.

However, we are now starting to consider, especially with our students returning next week, what it is that our parent body would be most interested in reading about. It is our intention with this weekly update to keep it short, sweet and to the point so that what is in it remains clearly purposeful and of genuine interest. And that means we would very much appreciate your feedback.

We have had some very positive comments–thank you!– and we would like to invite suggestions as to what else to include in it as we move forward into, before long, the summer term. Please let us know by emailing enquiries@thekingsacademy.org.uk, and marking it for either mine or Mrs Thorpe's attention. Please let us know what you would be most interested in hearing about.

Mr Bulley– Vice Principal

Remote Learning

Staff are looking forward to seeing students next week and resuming face-to-face education. Our surveys suggest that students and parents have appreciated the use of Teams, and especially live lessons, both of which have helped to increase student engagement and progress since the first lockdown last March.

We hugely appreciate the students who have demonstrated their resilience and organisation by turning up to online classes, working independently on tasks and getting involved in lessons. Teachers and students have learnt so much in a very short period of time, negotiating live lessons, chats, assignments and lots more very quickly. We will continue to use Teams for homework setting on our return and look forward to finding ways in which technology can help us to help students stay organised and make good progress with their studies.

Mrs Taylor - Assistant Principal, Teaching and Learning

Support for Parents

Kooth.com

Commissioned by the NHS, Local Authorities, charities and businesses to provide anonymous and personalised mental health support for Children and Young People via any internet-accessible device. Kooth provides an opportunity to interact in a supportive way with other young people as well as receive support from a qualified counsellor.

There will be two virtual Kooth sessions this month to give parents/carers and guardians more information on the young people's mental health service:

Thursday 18 March, 16.00 - 17.00

Monday 22 March, 17.30 - 18.30

You can book a place via this Eventbrite link:

<https://lght.ly/n0aifdc>

Barnados Tees Valley

Due to Covid more young people are turning to online methods to socialise. Many parents and carers are worried about what their children are doing online and if they are being exploited.

Barnados Tees Valley are offering webinars for parents and carers to help parents and carers spot the signs of grooming and online exploitation and to give guidance as to what they should do if are worried about their child's online behaviours. The webinars will take place on:

Tuesday 7, Wednesday 17,

Thursday 25 March, 7.00 - 8.00pm

To book a place go to [https://](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/141816859043)

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/141816859043

Public Health England

We are aware that in these difficult times children and young people are having to deal with difficult emotional situations they might not in normal times be exposed to. Public Health England have created a 3-session online course with a focus on children and young people's mental health. This guides you in what you can do to help them cope and access the support they need during and after emergencies and crisis situations.

The course is free and can be completed at your own pace. The link to sign up for this course can be found at:

www.futurelearn.com/courses/psychological-first-aid-for-children-and-young-people

Mrs Grime – Assistant Vice Principal

Additional Notices

School meals: parents are reminded to ensure that their daughter/son's meals account balance is topped up via ParentPay in time for their return to school next week.

Fuel Support: Middlesbrough Environment City are supporting families in Middlesbrough who are on pre-payment meters and running low on electricity and/or gas; or are at risk of disconnection. If you would like more information please contact Mrs Sinclair (Early Help Co-ordinator) at the Academy.



The Academy 'Test Centre' (aka Sports Hall)- ready for action!

Health & Social Care

Caring, Courageous, and Competent heroes have been the highlight this year as we struggle through these difficult times. The HSC department is dedicated to preparing students to be the heroes of tomorrow.

Our students have been studying how to care for a range of ages and issues.

- Year 9 have been studying what creates a good environment for children– such as relationships and the biological events that lead up to birth.
- Year 10 have choices: do they venture into the world of social care? If so, they choose Child Development, learning about protecting people. Or, if a medical route, then it's the Health and Social Care qualification for them.
- Year 12– gaining deeper understanding about current issues, like caring for Dementia and of course the current Coronavirus pandemic as well as much more.

Thank you as well to our exam groups for their hard work: I believe they will bring hope and a smile to many and make a real difference. Will they be our next generation of heroes?

Mrs Smith - Head of Health & Social Care