

The King Edward VI School Cottingwood Lane, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 1DN T 01670 515415 E kevi@the3rivers.net www.kevi.info

16 September 2020

Dear Parent /Carer and Student

Covid - 19 Update - September 2020

I would like to start by saying how delighted I am with the way our staff and students have adapted to the return to school. Our <u>expectations</u> are being closely followed by all in school and it is a testament to our students' consideration for each other how they have supported the changes put in place to keep them and our staff body safe.

I would like to take the opportunity to share some updated guidance and reminders and would appreciate it if you could discuss the content of this letter with your child. As I am sure you can appreciate it is important that we constantly reiterate these expectations in order to keep us all as safe as possible.

Absence

We have produced a quick reference table here to support you in deciding whether or not to send your child into school. Please note that our admin/pastoral staff cannot make this decision for you and so **please consult this document before reporting** an absence.

Masks

Students have been excellent in following our guidance regarding masks in corridors. I hope that you can appreciate that we cannot afford to give out disposable masks every day, nor would we want to due to the impact on the environment. *Can we therefore ask that you ensure that your child has a clean reusable mask with them each day.*

Break, lunch time and movement between lessons

As you are aware students are now, weather permitting, outside for much of break and lunchtime. In addition they are using the outside of school when moving between lessons. It is therefore imperative that students come to school appropriately dressed. *Can you please ensure that your child has a coat to wear as the weather becomes colder.* In addition due to the need for increased ventilation your child may feel colder than usual in school. Could you please ensure that they have a school jumper if required, or alternatively wear a white t-shirt underneath their school shirt if needed. Please note hoodies are not permitted at school.

Transport and the Bus Station

Following concerns raised by management at Sanderson Arcade we placed staff at the entrance to the bus station at the end of last week to remind our students that masks are compulsory when inside the bus station. We have also been in consultation with NCC who have moved the pick up location of four of the buses to reduce the numbers



going down to the bus station at the end of the day. If your child travels on public transport, or school transport can you please remind them that face masks are compulsory both on buses and in the bus station. I hope you can appreciate that we have vulnerable students travelling on these services and it is essential that we protect them as much as possible.

School action in the event of a confirmed case

In the event of a confirmed case in school we will immediately contact Public Health England who will take information to assess the risk and advise us at the action we need to take. All parents will be informed that there has been a case and you will be contacted directly if your child needs to self isolate as a result. **Could you please ensure that you have a plan in place should you need to collect your child from school during the day.**

Remote Learning

A separate letter will be sent out later this week with updated guidance regarding remote learning in the event of a student having to self isolate or a tier 2 local lockdown.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your continued support. It is important that we continue to work together to keep the staff, students and our wider community safe and the school open to all.

Yours sincerely

Ms C Savage Headteacher

