

Dear Parents or Carers,

Return to school.

I am writing to you following the government's announcement about the return to school for all secondary school students from Monday 8th March 2021. We are currently preparing to welcome back all students on a phased return from this date. Further details of this will be sent out early next week.

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms (asymptomatic) is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in school safely. Testing is voluntary, and you and/or your child will need to give consent for it to be carried out. However, we strongly encourage your child to take part so we can help prevent the spread of coronavirus. Students who are 16 can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.

Please complete as a matter of priority the consent form by clicking on the link:

<https://forms.gle/69as5zuFZHT5e7Zx6>

You will need to complete the form online for each child.

Students will 'self-swab' and will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of their throat and nose. Please remember to tell your child that you have given consent. Arrangements for testing are still to be finalised and these will be sent out to you next week.

Participating staff and students who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Students whose test result is negative will not be informed individually. Only a positive test will require communicating.

It is the intention that once students have been tested 3 times in school, they will then be provided with a home test pack so that they may test themselves at home regularly.

Over the next two weeks please take the time to prepare your child for a return to school. Your child will once again be expected to adhere to the strict protocols as before. **You must ensure that your child has a suitable face covering for each day** as this is compulsory in all communal areas and highly recommended in classrooms. We would recommend that you check school uniform, shoes and equipment.

Over the coming fortnight, please do everything that you can to encourage your child to stay positive and focused on their remote learning. It has undoubtedly been a long stretch, but the end is in sight!

If you have any questions you can contact me by emailing office@kha-tkat.org

I very much look forward to welcoming everyone back to school soon.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Steve Fisher
Executive Headteacher