



31 December 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Following the announcements made yesterday, I am writing with an update about the start of term. **This letter is specifically for parents and carers of children in Year 11.**

As with my previous letter, the announcements broadly follow two paths – our return in January and new rapid testing which will be available in schools.

### **Return in January**

Kings has a calendared INSET day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, where the school will be closed for all students. This arrangement will continue as published.

### **Year 11**

From Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January, Year 11 lessons **will now be online**. They will follow their current timetables. **It is a Week 2**. Lessons will be published on the SLE by 9am each morning and will take the form of a 15-30 minute Zoom video recording by their teacher, with work then set for around an hour for each lesson. Students should complete work in their current exercise books and this work will be reviewed on their return. All students are expected to complete all work set for them.

Lessons will be accessed on the SLE (Student Learning Environment) which is accessed via the 'Students/Student Hub' tab on our website. All students have been shown how to access this and have their usernames and passwords. If there are any issues here, please contact [networkhelpdesk@kingscollegeguildford.com](mailto:networkhelpdesk@kingscollegeguildford.com).

On site provision will be available for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Any students on site will not have traditional lessons, but will complete the same online work under supervision in one of our ICT suites. The Government classes vulnerable students as: students currently with a CIN or CP plan; students with an EHCP, and students who are classed as young carers. If your child will need to access this in-school provision, please contact Mrs Chamberlain ([p.chamberlain@kingscollegeguildford.com](mailto:p.chamberlain@kingscollegeguildford.com)) so provision can be planned.

Students who are due to take the Cambridge National examination for Sports Studies on 11<sup>th</sup> January will have an in-school revision session with Miss Hamilton from 10.00am-12noon on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Attendance is compulsory for those students.

Our planned Parents' Evening for Year 11 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January will continue as scheduled. All appointments are via remote video and can be booked in the usual way. If you need any support or have any questions here, please contact Michelle Lim ([m.lim@kingscollegeguildford.com](mailto:m.lim@kingscollegeguildford.com)).

### **In-school COVID testing in January**

Following successful trials in pilot schools, we will be able to offer rapid lateral flow testing for students and staff in school from the start of January. This will replace the need for students who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID to self-isolate and allow them to stay in school.



Subject to parental consent, we will aim to test all Year 11 students in the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January, prior to their return to school. More details of this are to follow on 4<sup>th</sup> January. Please note that although we recommend all students to be tested, students will be able to return to school as normal if they opt out of the testing. Families who opt out would have to self-isolate in the event of a close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Should anyone test positive in our school tests, they will be sent home to self-isolate with a PCR test (the sort of test currently being used) to complete and send off.

### **Final thoughts**

I am hopeful that the new in-school tests will allow Year 11 students to have an as uninterrupted run-up to GCSEs as possible. As ever, my thanks to staff, parents and students for your positive, can-do attitude and good humour. I can assure you that my team will do everything we can to make learning as effective as possible in the term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A. McKenzie  
Principal