



20th October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Today (Wednesday 20th October) is our last day of Module 1. We break up for just over a week and return to school on Monday 1st November.

It has been a great term in so many ways. Our Year 7 cohort, all 120 of them, have settled fantastically and brought the energy and enthusiasm that transition into secondary school brings. For the rest of us, the year has seen a return to a more normal school experience and we all continue to enjoy the human interaction, both inside and outside of the classroom, that makes us smile and makes schools such special places to be.

Like all schools, we have seen some students and staff test positive for COVID, but we have been very fortunate with quite low numbers confirmed. We keep a very close record of any patterns of infections and threshold levels that exist in our risk assessment and outbreak management plan. We continue to work with colleagues within Surrey and at the Department for Education in order to mitigate risk, provide anonymised information and support the public effort.

I am aware, and you may have heard, of other schools who have had to reintroduce face coverings in corridors and social spaces, or changed timetables to re-create bubbles. These things have not been necessary for us at Kings, but remain part of our outbreak management plan and could be enacted should our cases spike, or patterns of transmission become evident. I would write to parents and carers should we approach the point that these decisions may need to be made.

All of our students over the age of 12 have had the opportunity to receive a vaccine and this was undertaken with the minimum of fuss or impact within the classroom. My thanks to the team from the NHS and our own administrative team who supported students with this, showing tremendous patience and good humour at a time that some may have felt a little stressed.

Similarly, as external visitors to the school, I was delighted to receive feedback from the team about what a joy our young people were to interact with. We talk a lot about kindness within the school, and I'm always pleased when others notice that this value guides so many of our interactions.

Our other core belief is in the importance of hard work and the positive outcomes which happen as a result. I pay tribute to the work of all of our students, and to the families who offer such support to their children in maintaining their focus, especially with the plethora of distractions available to young people.



Finally, I am sure you will join me in thanking the teaching, administrative and support staff within the school. We have a truly remarkable team here at Kings, people whose skill, passion and care impacts so positively on our students.

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term and I look forward to seeing all of our students on Monday 1st November, which will be timetable Week 2.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. McKenzie', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mr A. McKenzie
Principal