

31st December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

**Revised Arrangements -
Staggered Start to Term in January 2021 & Coronavirus Testing**

On 30th December 2020 the government announced further amendments to arrangements for the start of the 2021 term. A summary of the arrangements is as follows:

- **Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th January 2021** - Kingsmead is open for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers *only*. All other students are to remain at home and will receive remote education via Firefly.
- **Monday 11th - Friday 15th January 2021** - Kingsmead is open to *all* Year 11, plus vulnerable students, and the children of critical workers in Years 7-10. All other students are to remain at home and will receive remote education via Firefly.

The students who will continue to receive face-to-face education on site are as follows:

- **Vulnerable students** who have previously attended Kingsmead School during the last period of school closure in 2020, and those whose parents/carers are individually contacted by Kingsmead School staff.
- **Children of critical workers.** Those who attended Kingsmead School during the last period of school closure in 2020 are welcome to attend without giving advance notice of their intention to come to site or not. All other children of critical worker parents/carers should contact the school via keyworkers@kingsmead-school.com to request a place during this week, detailing their employment, child's name and tutor group, by 3rd January 2021. Your child should not attend unless you receive a *positive response by email* on 4th January 2021. A definition of critical workers is available at this [link](#).
- From 11-15th January only, *all* **Year 11** students may attend Kingsmead School.

Arrangements for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers receiving education on site are as follows:

- Students should attend in **school uniform and with full PE kit**. They should report to the Dining Hall at which point they will receive further instruction on arrangements for the day. Lunch will be available. School transport will be in place as usual.
- With regret and given the period of school closure, there is no opportunity to consult with parents/carers on individual requests to attend school in advance of the 4th January 2021. It is important to note that **school is closed to all students on Monday 4th January 2021**, an Inset day.

All students at home will receive remote education, delivered in the following way:

- **Monday 4th January** – Kingsmead Inset Day, no work will be set.

CARE


ASPIRATION

RESPECT

DETERMINATION

Wiveliscombe, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2NE

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- **Tuesday 5th January** – *students in Years 7-10* should complete work found on the Covid School webpage. They will find this page under ‘resources’ at the top of the Firefly website, under Covid-19 then Covid School. Alternatively, it can be accessed via the ‘COVID School’ link on the dashboard (Firefly home page). *Students in Year 11 only* will receive Firefly tasks directly from their teachers on this day.
- **On all remaining days, until their return to site** – *students in Years 7-10* will receive individual Firefly tasks from their subject teachers. Teachers will either deliver a 15-20 minute live streamed lesson or prepare a pre-recorded/audio introduction-based activity. *For Year 11 students only*, the first lesson of 2021 in each subject will be a live-streamed lesson.

Arrangements for Year 11 mock and final examinations are as follows:

- **Mocks exams** due to take place from the 5th to the 8th January 2021 are now provisionally booked for the 19th to 22nd January 2021. The mocks scheduled for 11th to 15th January 2021 will remain in place. Further details are to follow.
- The Children’s Play Learning & Development **final examination** is taking place on Thursday 7th January 2021 as planned. Students should arrive to the examination room 10 minutes before the scheduled start time and arrange for their collection from the turning circle immediately after the examination.

Planned Coronavirus Testing at Kingsmead School:

The government has encouraged schools to plan for **coronavirus testing**, to *start* during the second week of January 2021. In the first week of term, school staff will plan for the rollout of testing. We will be in touch with more information in due course.

Again, it is frustrating that the revised plans for January 2021 have been provided to schools, to share with parents/carers and staff, at such late notice. Please get in touch if you have any queries about these arrangements, by emailing contact@kingsmead-school.com

I wish you all a happy new year.

Yours faithfully,



Mark Williams
Head Teacher