



KING'S LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY WARRINGTON

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wrote to you on the 26th August explaining the 'new normal' and systems in place to ensure a safe return whilst providing your children with the best possible curriculum. We are pleased that our students have returned to school safely and continue to show the same high standards and levels of endeavour they displayed throughout lockdown.

On the 28th August, schools received national guidance from the government in response to COVID 19, which was subsequently updated on 10th September. In light of these updates, we would like to share with you our response to each guidance point set out by the [Department for Education](#). Schools are required to interpret this guidance for their setting - we would like to reassure you that we have updated our policies in light of this content and in accordance with scientific advice which we have received from field experts.

We have set out below how the academy is responding to the government's new [Systems of Control](#). We see these as a minimum level of safety and have additional measures which surpass them:

**Guidance point 1:** *Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.*

- Medical-grade thermometers are used to track temperature on arrival to school. Rolling average data is used to increase monitoring validity. There are a number of additional procedures, including temperature acclimatisation which also forms part of the strategy. The approach is similar to what is employed internationally in countries that are recognised as having effective pandemic management. Preventing entry is still the most reliable method for reducing the spread of the virus.
- On entry to the building, students are grouped within their year cohorts to ensure that a strong curriculum can be accessed whilst minimising contact with anyone who is potentially unwell. Some schools refer to these arrangements as 'bubbles', the arrangements at King's go beyond this to allow traceable groupings in all lessons and during family dining where students are allocated seating positions. Seating positions are a crucial component of our internal track and trace system. This means if there was to be a positive case of COVID at King's, we could swiftly trace and isolate anyone who had been in contact with that person.
- Earlier this year, King's was recognised nationally as an EdTech lead school. Systems for remote

---

King's Leadership Academy Warrington – A free, independent 11-18 school in the state sector  
Hillock Lane, Woolston Warrington WA1 4PF [www.kingswarrington.com](http://www.kingswarrington.com)



## KING'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY WARRINGTON

learning, including a classroom to cloud timetable that runs parallel to normal lessons ensure that anyone required to isolate can still access the full curriculum at home. During the previous lockdown, you will recall that we taught 6 periods per day from March to July for all students. If your child is required to isolate, please rest assured that they will receive a high quality of education until they can return again.

- Our Pastoral team has set up a digital command centre to support students and families who are required to isolate. The purpose of this centre is to actively identify cases which could affect school. This further limits the possibility of children coming into contact with the virus. Should families struggle to access testing in the local area, school has a system to utilise the government allocation of test kits. If you would like further information about this, please contact your child's Year Leader, details are provided below.
- In order to reduce risk from external contact, we have limited school contact to essential visitors only and have migrated many face-to-face practices to Zoom-based sessions, this includes tutoring and parental meetings.

The following guidance points 2-6 below are informed by our 'Alert Status Level' which aims to proactively respond on local threat level using [live health data](#). The academy's current ASL is Amber.

### **Guidance Point 2:** *Where recommended, use of face coverings in schools.*

- Students and staff are encouraged to wear face coverings in communal areas, including corridors and anywhere in the building where it is difficult to maintain 2m distance. In response to an increase in local cases, we have also permitted students to wear coverings more widely should they wish. We would like to reassure parents that this has not affected the quality of learning or interaction between teachers and students. Students have been educated on how to wear and remove the coverings safely and the academy has additional face coverings available should children need them.

### **Guidance Point 3:** *Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.*

- Hygiene and handwashing facilities have been placed around school, there are now multiple electronic dispensers on each corridor and staff supply hand gel on entry/exit from their rooms.
- Students have received lessons on how to keep safe by applying frequent sanitisation.
- Students are welcome to bring their own hand sanitisation products if they wish. They are reminded to use them throughout the day.



KING'S LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY WARRINGTON

**Guidance Point 4:** *Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.*

- In line with research stating adequate ventilation is one of the most effective preventative measures, the school has undertaken the following actions:
  - Invested in an industrial, ultraviolet light air filtration unit which runs constantly sterilising the air in communal spaces, such as the refectory. During the evenings this device cleanses the air in the building ahead of the next day.
  - Automatic ventilation in all rooms is consistently activated and larger spaces are extracting air to the exterior of the building.
- Respiratory hygiene lessons have been delivered since early lockdown and continued regularly. Student-friendly posters and reminders have all been implemented throughout the academy and will be reinforced throughout the year.

**Guidance Point 5:** *Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.*

- The Academy has increased cleaning throughout the day, especially in communal and frequently-accessed areas.
- Disinfectant wipes and cleaning products are in classrooms and topped up regularly.
- All deliveries to the school are sanitised and quarantined before permitted into the school protected environment.
- Contact areas are sprayed between lessons with a safe disinfectant to sanitise surfaces.

**Guidance Point 6:** *Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.*

Whilst this point is not mandatory all the time, recognising that children will mix before and after school, the Academy has given this detailed consideration and put the following measures in place to suit our circumstance:

- A staggered start to the day to ensure distributed entry into the building. At the start of the day, students wear face coverings until they enter their allocated protective group (often referred to as bubbles).
- The Academy operates split lunch procedures to limit the amount of possible interactions between individuals.
- We have removed enrichment or cultural events that may be hard to socially distance within, such as assemblies. These are held via remote technology, as students sit in their dedicated form room.
- All subjects have individual risk assessments designed to mitigate risk in their specific discipline.



KING'S LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY WARRINGTON

- Floor markings are in place to guide students with distancing and reminders to keep distance are placed around the building.

We understand that this may be a nervous and uncertain start to the academic year. We hope you appreciate the detail in this letter and feel reassured during these difficult times that your child's safety is our priority.

As always, feel free to contact your child's year leader with any questions or feedback by emailing the following addresses:

Year 7 - [j.goode@kingswarrington.com](mailto:j.goode@kingswarrington.com)

Year 8 - [h.greatbanks@kingswarrington.com](mailto:h.greatbanks@kingswarrington.com)

Year 9 - [s.lawrence@kingswarrington.com](mailto:s.lawrence@kingswarrington.com)

Year 10 - [l.cawley@kingswarrington.com](mailto:l.cawley@kingswarrington.com)

Year 11 - [s.aldridge@kingswarrington.com](mailto:s.aldridge@kingswarrington.com)

Year 13 - [j.robinson@kingswarrington.com](mailto:j.robinson@kingswarrington.com)

Yours sincerely

*Shane Ierston*

Shane Ierston  
Principal - King's Warrington

---

King's Leadership Academy Warrington – A free, independent 11-18 school in the state sector  
Hillock Lane, Woolston Warrington WA1 4PF [www.kingswarrington.com](http://www.kingswarrington.com)