



KING'S LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY WARRINGTON

Saturday 19th September

Dear Parents and Carers

Apologies for the weekend email and interruption to your evening. We have recently been advised that there has been a single, confirmed case, of COVID-19 within King's.

I am writing to reassure you that we have carried out a full risk assessment and identified all those who have been in close contact with the affected individual. Whilst there is only a small risk, we have recommended that those students remain at home and self-isolate until 14 days after their last contact. The individual affected had already been self-isolating and was not attending school when they were tested. As a result of the swift action at King's and very supportive parents, the impact on the school community is minimal and has prevented a potential outbreak.

If you have not received a personal telephone call, your child has **not** been identified as a close contact and therefore does not need to make any change to their usual routine, including school attendance. The remainder of this email contains two important messages, **Point 1** is about staying safe and **Point 2** is about changes we are introducing which will affect how we operate on Monday.

Point 1 - Staying safe

Whilst COVID-19 cases are still infrequent in our direct community, they are rising again nationally and in [Warrington](#), which has experienced a significant overall rise. You may have read about the [local situation](#) on the council website and social media channels. In the same way that Warrington is not immune to the virus, King's and other schools may soon begin to experience more positive cases amongst pupils and staff. You will be reassured to hear that King's have acted swiftly, taking all necessary steps in line with Health Protection Agency (HPA) advice, alongside the expertise of sector experts.

In light of this, we are asking for your help by following the recommendations below:

- Please talk to your children about the risks of congregating in groups outside schools, and mixing with other schools rather than going directly home at the end of the day.
- All pupils should wear face coverings in communal school areas such as corridors and halls where social distancing can be difficult.
- Those travelling to school on public transport must adhere to the mandatory wearing of face coverings.

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- If you or your child is displaying any symptoms of coronavirus they must isolate for 14 days, however mild. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are **recent onset of a new continuous cough** and/or a **high temperature** and/or a loss of, or **change in normal sense of taste or smell**. If your child, or anyone in your household, develops these symptoms, your whole household must remain at home and not go to work, school or public areas. You should arrange testing for the person who has developed symptoms. When the result is known further advice can be obtained from school or a health professional.
- Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: nhs.uk/coronavirus, there are now a number of places in Warrington administering tests.

Point 2: Important changes at from Monday

Further to the guidelines set out above, King's will be adding additional measures to the academy as we move our **Alert Status Level** to **Red/Amber**. This elevation is to ensure that we respond proactively and remain ahead of the [national increase](#). We have outlined our strategy below, we want you to beware of these changes and to discuss them with your child as soon as possible, preferably before Monday. We will also discuss them with your children at the start of the week.

In addition to our existing systems, we will be implementing the following measures from Monday 21st of September. These systems are being introduced to ensure the safety of both students and the community:

- Students will need to bring in a packed lunch to school and will eat in their house group room. This is to reduce mixing of students in the refectory, strengthen social distancing and enable us to track and trace as effectively as possible. As soon as the Alert Status Level drops again, we will revert to family dining.
- For parents and students unable to supply a packed lunch, cold packed lunches will be available to purchase daily. However, the range of food will not be as extensive as our usual offer. Any student entitled to free school meals will have automatic access to the packed lunch menu. This will be organised electronically using Google Drive. Funds can be credited to student accounts in the usual way.
- Morning break time will be zoned to allow students time outside the building in traceable areas. Therefore, we request that students bring their own snack and outdoor coat should the weather become colder. In wet weather, students will return to their House Group Rooms.

We thank you for your continued support and cooperation in ensuring we can remain open for our young leaders at this difficult time. As we monitor the progress of the local measures and hopefully see cases and rates drop, we will relax the measures accordingly and drop our **ASL level** back to down, we will keep you **informed at each step of the way**.

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In responding quickly to this new challenge, I'm sorry we're unable to provide greater notice and hope that the suggestions above do not cause inconvenience to your family. On a positive note, a number of [vaccines are making excellent progress](#), there could be a silver lining very soon, we just need to stay alert and keep safe a little while longer! Thank you for your continued support, we couldn't do this without your help. If you have further question or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Year Leader who will be happy to help.

Year 7 - j.goode@kingswarrington.com

Year 8 - h.greatbanks@kingswarrington.com

Year 9 - s.lawrence@kingswarrington.com

Year 10 - l.cawley@kingswarrington.com

Year 11 - s.aldridge@kingswarrington.com

Year 13 - j.robinson@kingswarrington.com

Yours sincerely

Shane Ierston

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Principal King's Warrington