



3rd September 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

It is so exciting again to be welcoming you to the start of a new school year. I hope you and your young people have had a restful and peaceful summer break, and are full of energy and enthusiasm for coming back to school next week. We have had all staff in today getting ready for the student's return, and as always it is great to see everyone getting set for welcoming our young people next week.

1. Start of Term

Monday 6 September

We will welcome **all Y7 and Y13 students** in College for 0845.

Y7 students will be greeted on arrival by myself and colleagues, and we will be directing them to Ariel Theatre so that we can get them prepared and off to their tutor groups.

Please reassure Y7s that we have the whole day to help them settle in and find their way around. They will have time with their new tutor groups and tutors, and they will also attend some of their usual timetabled lessons.

Many Y7s (and parents and carers of them!), of course, may feel nervous, but we have lots of expertise in helping our new arrivals settle in.

We will finish at our usual time of 3.15pm. Please could any parents and carers picking up their Y7s by car use the car park on the Elmhurst site across Ashburton Road - this is our usual pick up point, owing to the Redworth site being very busy with buses and taxis at the end of the day. You are of course very welcome to walk over the bridge and meet your young person on the Redworth site on Monday - again, as with every day there will be lots of staff and myself around to help if needed.

Tuesday 7 September

All students will be welcomed in College from 0845.

All students in Y7-11 will go direct to their tutor group rooms on arrival. Y7s will know their tutor group rooms from Monday, and all other tutor group rooms are enclosed at the end of this letter. Again, we will be on hand to help direct and reassure students at the start of the school day.

2. COVID Safety

Parents and carers may have seen the rising number of infections in the local area and the consequent designation of Devon and Torbay as Enhanced Response Areas by national government.

As a result of this, schools are being asked to ensure that staff and **students wear face coverings in communal areas indoors (but not in classrooms)**. This means students will need again to be ready to wear face coverings from Monday in corridors and when moving between lessons indoors.

Of course, some students and staff will be exempt from wearing face coverings on medical grounds, and we will of course respect this sensitively. If you are a new parent or carer to the College, you can notify us of an exemption to face coverings for you young person using the link below;

[Exemption form - face coverings](#)

Students will also be required to wear face coverings on all **public transport and on DCC provided school transport** unless exempt.

As ever, we will make available spare face coverings to any young people that need them should they forget to bring their own.

Along with this, we will again be asking students to **test twice weekly for COVID using Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs)**, and of course we will still require any students who have tested positive, have symptoms, or who have been contacted by track and trace and asked to isolate, to stay at home.

Please note we can only test with parental/carer consent. If you have not yet given consent, you can do so via the link below, and please note should you wish not to give your consent, you should still complete the form to inform us.

[LF Testing Consent Form](#)

More details on testing and COVID safety are enclosed at the end of this letter, and as ever, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch - either by email, or by one of our regular parent and carer Q and A sessions.

3. Parent and Carer Q and A: Wednesday 8th September 5-6pm

Our first online Q and A of the new school year will be next Wednesday 5-6pm. This will be hosted by myself, and is a great opportunity to ask questions and give feedback. It is very informal and questions on any topics are welcomed!

We will email all parents and carers the link for this google meet on Wednesday afternoon with a reminder.

Finally, I hope you and your young people enjoy a great last weekend of the holidays. We can't wait to see our students back next week to start another school year.

With best wishes,



Alan Salt
Principal

Additional Information

Y8-11 Tutor Rooms

Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
B8a AHN 15	B9a JMN 14	B10a CSD 17	B11a SRE 11
B8b DIH 9A	B9b EMN 10	B10b SGG 165	B11b NLD 19
D8a CME 6	D9a CEN 42	D10a NTD 51	D11a ETD 164
D8a RLE 6	D9b LCS 43	D10b CHS 52	D11b NCK 40
D8b SLN 2	G9a JAS 163	G10a NRT 34	G11a RPS 62
G8a NHD 63	G9b BMN 35	G10b DSW 25	G11b DCN 65
G8b SMY 24	S9a TRR 20	S10a DBN 26	S11a JEL 60
PLC/Tu KBN BU	S9b BCN 61	S10a CPR 26	S11b GBK 166

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Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
S8a CFZ 5		S10b JHE 28	
S8b CCS 161			

COVID Safety: Additional Information on Testing, Absence and Risk Assessment

1. LFD Testing at KEVICC

As I'm sure you are aware, rates of COVID cases have increased locally over the Summer Holidays and so, as a College, we will be following similar procedures to those in place at the end of the Summer Term to keep students safe. The most important thing we can all do to reduce transmission of the virus in the local community is to follow the Government guidance on testing and isolation periods for anyone who has, or is likely to have COVID-19.

1.1 On-Site LFD Testing

For the start of this Autumn Term, the College will be providing two on-site Lateral Flow COVID tests for all students where we have consent to test them. Where consent has been provided students will be tested on Tuesday (7th) and then again on Friday (10th). This is an important part of the College's strategy to minimise the impact of COVID-19 on students so if you haven't please complete the consent form (link provided below). **Please note that it is important that you complete this form even if you do not consent to your young person being tested):**

[LF Testing Consent Form](#)

Please find below a link to the video we made when we first started testing students in March – if you think your young person may have concerns about the testing, feel free to show them the video to remind them how the process works.

[Lateral Flow Testing video - KEVICC](#)

1.2 Home LFD Testing

We would encourage your young person to complete a COVID-19 Lateral Flow Test at home before they return to school on Tuesday 7th September (when we will be testing them on site) if you are able to access home testing devices. This will help ensure people infected but not showing symptoms stay away from College at the start of term. If you are able to test, please report your results to the College and the NHS using the following links:

[Report Test Results to KEVICC](#)

[Report Test Results to NHS Test and Trace](#)

Once students complete their 2nd on site test on 10th September, they will be given a pack of COVID-19 Home Tests so that they can continue to test twice weekly at home. We recommend that they complete the tests on a Sunday and Wednesday night and we will continue to send 'remember to complete your COVID-19 test' emails out on these days to all students, parents and carers – these emails also contain details on how to report their results to both the College and the NHS (same links as provided above), which is very important.

As with the on-site testing, this is a major part of our approach to reducing/eliminating the amount of transmission of the virus within the College community and for this reason we strongly encourage all students to test twice weekly and report the results to the College and NHS Test and Trace.

2. When to stay away from College

If your young person has any symptoms that could be related to COVID-19, has tested positive for COVID-19 (either using a Lateral Flow or PCR Test), or has been identified as someone who should isolate for some other reason (by NHS Test and Trace for example) they should not come into College.

In these cases, please email studentabsences@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk giving details of the absence.

Taking these actions will help us keep everyone safe by reducing any potential transmission of the virus within the local community.

3. Risk Assessment

As a College we have updated our COVID-19 **Risk Assessment document** with the actions we are taking to keep students safe, which will be available on our website from the 3rd September. We continue to work closely with the Local Education Authority and the Public Health Team to ensure we remain as safe as possible at this time.