KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

learning to flourish



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17 September 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope this update finds you all well. It's been such a fantastic start to our school year here, and great to see staff welcoming new students and starting everyone back into their new classes. I've been so impressed with how our new Year 7s are settling in, and the way in which other year groups have come back so positive and determined to get the best out of the new term.

There are several areas I wanted to update you all on;

1) Messaging teachers with Classcharts

From next Monday, we have added a new function to our Classcharts platform called "Two Way Communications" that will enable you to message staff about your young person. It works in a very simple way and will compliment and work alongside existing communications such as email.

Please see the enclosed guide to how to access this. If you have any problems with logging into and using Classcharts, including this platform, please email us at administration@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk

2) Enrichment and Clubs

This is such an important part of KEVICC life, so we are really pleased that our introductory Enrichment Fair for Y7 students is running this Monday lunchtime in the Theatre - this is a great chance for Y7s to see what clubs and activities will be running.

Likewise, we are thrilled that preparations for the KEVICC show are up and running - more on this soon!

I've also attached to this message our fantastic PE department's enrichment offer, showing what sport clubs and activities are on each week.

3) COVID-10 Vaccination Programme for 12-15 Year Olds

I'm sure many of you will have seen the announcement this week by the Government to offer one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to all children agreed 12-15.

This programme will be managed by the local School Age Immunisation Team, and the vaccinations will be offered in schools.

















Central to this programme is the question of consent. The position from the SAIT is clear that consent will always be sought, and I have attached for parents and carers the full letter from the SAIT to Devon Headteachers with the relevant paragraph being;

"We are aware of the concerns regarding self-consent nationally and we would like to reassure schools and parents that we will not be vaccinating their children without a positive consent form being completed by a parent/guardian. If there are any discrepancies between a child and parental view, we will call parents away from the vaccination session and arrange for vaccination to be caught up if required."

Many of you may be aware that we have had a group attend the school gates this Thursday attempting to engage students with opinions and literature showing anti-vax views. It is very regretful that this has caused harm and distress to some of our students.

We have reported this incident to all relevant authorities including the police and will follow their guidance, as well as making sure, as ever, that we are on hand to safeguard and support our young people.

We have shared with our students a simple message; they have the right to come and go from school without harassment or uninvited attention. We have also reassured students them that the decision to be vaccinated or not is a personal decision, and that this individual choice will be respected.

We will share more details of the vaccination programme with you once we have them.

4) Reporting COVID-19

We are still seeing higher than average rates of COVID-19 in our local area, and this is reflected in cases in school. We've notified 8 confirmed cases since our return on 6 September, so it remains very important that all students follow the official advice;

- If you have symptoms, stay at home and arrange a PCR test
- If you can, take a LFD test twice a week on Sundays and Wednesdays and register the result
- If you have a positive result, notify the school immediately and follow NHS track and trace's advice.

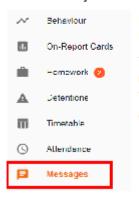
That's all for now - again, thank you for supporting your young person and I hope you all enjoy a restful and relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely

Alan Salt Principal

Two Way Communications

At King Edward VI Community College, we believe that it is important to work in partnership with parents/carers and that clear communication between college and parents/carers is important to help children benefit as much as possible from their time in school. Using Class Charts two-way communication is one tool we can use to meet these objectives.

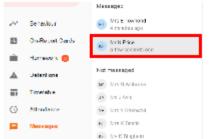


How to communicate with staff at KEVICC?

There may be times when it necessary for pupils and parents/carers to engage in direct communication with teachers

Class Charts allows you to do this via Messaging.



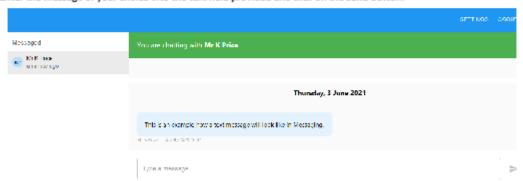


To message a teacher, locate the teacher in the

Message/Not Messaged tab and click on the name of the teacher you wish to communicate with.

The window will display the message thread for the selected teacher.

Enter the message of your choice into the text field provided and click on the send button.



The message thread will then be updated with your successfully sent message.

Dear Head Teacher,

As I am sure you will have heard it has been agreed by the Chief Medical Officers (CMO) that 1 dose of the CoVID vaccination will be offered to all children aged 12-15 years, this will be young people in school years 8-11 and those in year 7 who were 12 years old on or before 22nd September 2021.

The School Immunisation Team has been asked to deliver this alongside the nasal flu vaccination programme. We have worked with you all for many years to provide school-based vaccination programmes and we are aware of the anxiety surrounding this programme. We will fully support you as schools as much as we can as well as parents and young people, to ensure we carry out CoVID vaccinations in schools as safely and effectively as possible.

We are aware of the concerns regarding self-consent nationally and we would like to reassure schools and parents that we will not be vaccinating their children without a positive consent form being completed by a parent/guardian. If there are any discrepancies between a child and parental view, we will call parents away from the vaccination session and arrange for vaccination to be caught up if required.

Consent will be gained via e-consent in the usual way as for all our vaccination programmes, however for CoVID vaccinations we can only gain consent 4 working days prior to the vaccination session - we would therefore ask that you support us in timely dissemination of this e-consent link when it is received to ensure parents have the opportunity to consent or decline the vaccination.

The CoVID vaccination programme has to be delivered in a 6 week window, so all families have an offer before mid-November. As I am sure you can appreciate this has meant we have had to change our planned schedule of sessions for schools with very little room for movement. If your school session date does need to move, our team will be in touch shortly to share the new date with you. We would appreciate your support in agreeing to the new proposed date wherever possible.

We will be sharing an initial communication to be sent to parents with you so they are aware of our contact details for queries and that we will be in touch nearer the time with consent information, again also sharing information about the consent process to allay any fears.

If you do have queries in the meantime as a school, please contact us on our SPA 0300 247 0082 or via email VCL.immunisations@nhs.net

Yours sincerely

Charlotte Forward
Lead for Covid 12-15 Immunisations
School Age Immunisations Team Virgin Care Services Limited



PE Extra-Curricular Activities AUTUMN TERM From 13th September



Venue **Breaktime** Lunchtime Venue Afterschool Venue All Yrs Gym FS AST Rugby Club All Years Monday (Limited space, first come first serve) SQK / SLN SLN Boys Gym Club FS Year 7/8 Indoor SH Netball SH SQK Football All Years Tuesday SQK CME 6th Form Sport Girls Gym Club FS Year 10/11 SH SH CPG Indoor Football CPG Wednesday CWE All Years Gym FS Y7/8 This Girl RG Girls Football AST Can Club Club All Years **Thursday** CME CME Wk A NWT NWT Wk B Girls Gym Club FS Parkour RG NWT Y9 Sports SH Leaders SLN Friday PE Faculty HUB Detentions SQK

Break time and lunchtime clubs only require a change of footwear. If you want to take part in extra-curricular clubs after school, you will need to bring appropriate footwear to change into.