

# KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



*learning to flourish*

Principal Alan Salt

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1/10/21

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope this update finds you all well. We have had such a busy fortnight since I last updated you, culminating this week in two Open Mornings and one Open Evening for prospective students. As ever, we have been so proud of all our students who have volunteered to guide visitors and talk to them about KEVICC, and it has been a real privilege to talk with prospective parents about our school and what makes us such a unique place to learn.

We are getting some really positive feedback about the new messaging service on Classcharts, and since I last wrote our enrichment offer has really kicked off, headlined by our Duality music festival - if you missed it, the video is on our YouTube channel!

We wanted to give you some further updates on the latest situation with COVID-19 in school, and with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.

## 1. COVID-19 Latest

You will know from the warning letter sent out Wednesday to all of you that we have had an increase in the number of students testing positive for COVID-19. Y8 parents and carers will know that the Public Health advice we received was for all students in that year group to take a precautionary PCR test.

Over the last week, we have had 23 students confirmed as having COVID-19. All but 3 of these have been in Y8. In total 46 students have confirmed as positive since we came back to school on 6 September. After a steady couple of weeks, this last week has therefore seen a significant increase.

This is what prompted our consultation with Public Health England. We have also been in close consultation with the local authority. What is clear is that many secondary schools locally are seeing a similar pattern, which reflects the high rates of infection in the local community.

Their advice is clear in the letters that have been sent, which places a huge emphasis as ever on:

- Taking a LFD test twice weekly if you are well
- Taking a PCR test and isolating whilst awaiting the result if you are symptomatic
- Not coming into school if you are unwell with COVID symptoms



I have linked below an update from Steve Brown, Devon's Director of Public Health, which should give you some further background on the current situation across the county in schools. It is really worth a close read and explains the current approach to this issue in Devon.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/director-of-public-health-sets-out-clear-advice-for-parents-of-school-age-children/>

## **2. Flu and COVID-19 Vaccinations**

You will know from our letter on Wednesday that the School Age Immunisation Team (SAIT) are planning to offer all students in Y7 to Y11 the flu vaccination, and all students aged 12-15 the COVID-19 vaccination next Wednesday.

The key here is that this is an offer to students. The decision is down to families and young people. Please do remember to direct questions you may have about the vaccination programmes to the SAIT on 0300 247 0082.

The consent form for flu vaccinations and information was shared with you on Wednesday. Please note the consent form for this closes at midnight on Sunday 3 October.

The consent form and further details for the COVID-19 vaccination will be circulated at the start of next week - this is because some of the questions asked in this consent form can only be answered within a certain time of the vaccination being offered.

Finally, please be reassured that as part of the vaccination offer, we are working closely with the local authority and other agencies, including the Police, to ensure that the process is free from any disruption so that our students feel safe at all times.

## **3. Parent and Carer Q and A: Thursday 5-6pm**

Just a reminder our next online Q and A is coming up next Thursday - as usual, we will send the link electronically to all parents and carers on the day. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Thank you again for the support you've shown over the past couple of weeks. It's hard to believe it is October already! I hope you all enjoy a restful and relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Salt  
Principal

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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> September



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

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.

