

13 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The academic year started with great plans to continue with the developments that have seen the school grow from strength to strength over recent years. What no one saw coming was Coronavirus. This has had a significant impact on our plans as a school. Staff were asked to adapt, with very little notice, to online learning. As you will imagine, attempting to shift weeks of carefully coordinated lesson planning, content and skills progression into online learning was difficult, but Kingsmeadow staff rose to the challenge. There was no time to coach the children, to prepare them. We know that some students have flourished and some have found the lack of daily interaction in a classroom setting very challenging. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their support in these difficult circumstances.

Staff have worked hard to try and meet the needs of all their students. As we come to the end of this term, staff are more tired than I have seen them in some time.

I am hoping that September will see a fresh beginning at Kingsmeadow following this unprecedented year of lockdown and quarantine. We will be returning to full time in school education for all year groups. Things will continue to be different to normal, with year groups having to be separated, and movement around the school carefully choreographed to keep students and staff as safe as possible. Government guidance outlines expectations upon schools, students, parents and staff which we will endeavour to ensure are in place for a safe and secure start to the year. Further updates with details of these processes and protocols will be published by the start of the new term in September.

Once again we are oversubscribed, with over 200 students putting Kingsmeadow as their first choice school, and over 420 students naming us amongst their top 3 choices. Year 7 in September will be busy.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention those Year 11 and Year 13 students who are coming to the end of their time at Kingsmeadow. The strange end to their time at school is very difficult to take in. The lack of exams and the opportunity to properly celebrate their time as members of our community has been difficult. They have missed out on leavers' assemblies, proms and the informal goodbyes that mark the summer term. I would like to wish them well on the next stage of their journey. I am also looking forward to welcoming those members of our Year 11 who will be returning into our Sixth Form next year. I know that our new students joining us in September 2020 will bring many talents to continue the increased success that the school has enjoyed over the course of the last years.

Last day of Term

The last day of term is Friday 17 July. Staff will not be available on line from that date, as would normally be the case during the summer. Term will resume in September 2020, as outlined below.

Summer Results

A Level results will be available on Thursday 13 August. GCSE results will be available from school on Thursday 20 August. Please see the school website for detailed opening times. I look forward to celebrating the success of our students.

For September 2020:

Uniform and Sixth Form Dress Code

Full school uniform will be in place as normal from September 2020. The uniform will be unchanged in September. All students in Years 7 - 11 must follow this. Details are available on the school website. I ask for your continued support in ensuring that your child comes to school in the correct uniform. All students should be wearing a Kingsmeadow tank top and blazer and only plain black polishable shoes are permitted.

We have a Sixth Form dress code in place as outlined to all post-16 students. Please support the school in this by ensuring that your child is appropriately dressed for a working environment.

New Staff

We will be saying goodbye to a small number of staff and welcoming increasing numbers of new members of staff to Kingsmeadow School in the new academic year. While it is always difficult to see members of our community move on, we wish them all well in the future. I know that our new staff will be both positive and productive additions to our school community. Information about staff will be available on the school website.

Arrangements for the start of term

Monday 7 September	Staff training day - school closed to students
Tuesday 8 September	Year 7 Induction Day 1 Yr 12 enrollment
Wednesday 9 September	Year 7 Induction Day 2 Yr 12 & 13 Induction Day
Thursday 10 September	All students in school.

Year 12 enrolment will take place on Tuesday 8 September with Yr 12 and Year 13 Induction on Wednesday 9 September. Further details will be issued by Mr Hood, Head of Post 16.

Please keep a close eye on the school website which will have all updates and guidance.

I would like to wish you all a good summer and look forward to seeing you and your families in the new term.

Yours faithfully



Mr Volpe
Headteacher