

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Arrangements for the education of Kingsmead School students during the new 'National Lockdown'

At 8pm yesterday, we were informed of a new 'National Lockdown' which came into force today. The government anticipates this National Lockdown lasting until February half term. During this period, Kingsmead School will remain open to vulnerable students and the children of critical workers **only**. All other students are to remain at home and will receive remote education via Firefly.

Arrangements for students at home receiving remote learning:

Every day - students will receive individual Firefly tasks from their subject teachers, with 1 task per lesson, which will take approximately 45 mins - 1 hour to complete. The day, subject name and lesson will be clearly visible in the task title.

Once per week for KS4 subjects – teachers will deliver at least one 15-20 minute live streamed or pre-recorded/audio introduction-based lesson. Please note that staff absence and commitments to teaching on-site may limit the provision of such lessons in some subjects.

Once per fortnight for KS3 subjects – teachers will deliver at least one 15-20 minute live streamed or pre-recorded/audio introduction-based lesson. Please note that staff absence and commitments to teaching on-site may limit the provision of such lessons in some subjects.

Pastoral contact & support – tutors will deliver one-live streamed afternoon registration per week from WB 11th January 2021. Heads of Year will also deliver a live-streamed or pre-recorded assembly per week. Approximately once per month tutors will call to speak to both tutees and their parents/carers, to discuss remote learning progress and wellbeing. There will also be a pre-recorded whole school assembly at the end of the month.

Special Educational Needs - for those students with Special Educational Needs, Teaching Assistants will make regular contact to offer additional support.

Praise & reward – exemplary progress or engagement in remote learning will be recorded by subject teachers. Tutors and/or Heads of Year will contact parents/carers and students to share our praise and where appropriate arrange a reward.

CARE

ASPIRATION

RESPECT

DETERMINATION

Wiveliscombe, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2NE

 contact@kingsmead-school.com

 01984 623483

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Tracking of failure to engage in remote provision – teaching staff will track the engagement of students in our remote provision. Where necessary parents/carers will be contacted to discuss our concerns, including those regarding student attendance at live streamed provision.

Safeguarding – if you have a safeguarding concern for a Kingsmead student, please do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Team by email to safeguarding@kingsmead-school.com

Free School Meals – parents/carers of students in receipt of Free School Meals will receive vouchers to purchase lunch for their child.

Arrangements for Year 11:

The following examinations **are taking place** in January 2021. Students should sign in at reception 10 minutes before the examination start time, wearing a mask & in school uniform, and then wait to be collected from outside reception. Transport to/from the examination is a parental responsibility.

- Children’s Play Learning & Development – 7th January 2021, 2pm start time
- OCR Sport Studies – 11th January 2021, 9am start time
- WJEC Catering – 14th January 2021, 9am start time

We anticipate the rescheduling of **mock exams** for a period after February half term, subject to full school opening. Students are advised to continue revising purposefully for their mocks, alongside engaging with remote learning. Mock outcomes were used by teachers last year to assist in determining each child’s final GCSE grades.

The following statement is from the Government’s National Lockdown [guidance](#), regarding **Summer GCSE examinations**:

In the circumstances, we do not think it is possible for all exams in the summer to go ahead as planned. We will accordingly be working with Ofqual to consult rapidly to put in place alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly.

Once arrangements for Summer exams are clarified, we will contact Year 11 students and parents/carers with further information.

Arrangements for vulnerable students and the children of critical workers receiving education on site:

- Attendance for this group of students was confirmed on/by 4th January 2021, and their provision on site **started today**.
- **Transport Somerset** will contact parents in due course about new arrangements for school transport. Until you hear otherwise, please presume normal travel routes are in place.
- These students should continue to arrive to site **in school uniform, with headphones, sanitiser, a face mask, the means to wipe their desk before use and full PE kit**. Years 7-8 should report to the Dining Hall upon arrival to site, and Years 9-11 to the East Block Hall. At this point students will be able to order lunch.

Yet again, it is disappointing that this further change to education provision has been shared at such late notice and with near immediate effect.

Please get in touch if you have any queries about these arrangements, by emailing contact@kingsmead-school.com

Yours faithfully,



Mark Williams
Head Teacher