

Kirkbie Kendal School

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Headteacher: Mark Harris BA
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MHs/BPe

24th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Cumbria Covid-19 Guidance Change

Cumbria Public Health has made a small but significant change to their guidance for schools as of last night. The amended guidance is detailed below.

Children and young people aged between the ages of 5 and 16 are now advised to stay at home if a brother or sister they live with tests positive for COVID-19 (via either a PCR or Lateral Flow test).

3-5 days following the onset of symptoms in the child who has tested positive, any brothers or sisters should get a PCR test. If this is negative, they can return to school, but should isolate again immediately and get another test if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 at a later date.

This does not apply to the following:

- 12-16 year-olds who have had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago
- Any child aged 5 - 16 years who has tested positive for COVID-19 via a PCR test within the past 90 days.

Whilst we would not advise this, any parent/carers with a positive case in a child at home do have the right to send siblings into school **so long as they do not have symptoms and as long as they have not tested positive**. In these situations please ensure that the child is taking daily LFD tests and we strongly advise the child to get a PCR test before coming back to school.

If a parent or carer tests positive then please use the LFD tests to test children in the same household daily and continue to send children to school.

The current case load for Kirkbie Kendal students is:

1 case in Year 7
4 cases in Year 8
5 cases in Year 10
4 cases in Year 11

This case load has remained stable over the last couple of weeks, although that does not mean it will continue to do so. We continue to remain vigilant and will react to any increase in cases as we did successfully with the Sixth Form at the beginning of last week by asking them to wear masks.

Measures we continue to take in school with regard to Covid-19 are:

- Staff and student testing at home twice a week
- Hand sanitisation on entry to classrooms and the canteen
- Enhanced ventilation
- Enhanced cleaning of frequently touched surfaces
- Keeping students and staff away from school if they have tested positive for Covid-19 or have any Covid-19 symptoms. Covid-19 symptoms include a high temperature, a continuous cough or a loss of taste or smell.

If you are contacting school to report a positive Covid-19 test please email notify@kksa.co.uk and include your name and contact number and the name of the student. This system is working well. Thank you for your help with this.

We have had a fantastic start to the year and whilst we are managing Covid-19 there are lots of great things going on in school. On Wednesday this week it was great to see around 200 of our students taking part in boys' football, girls' football, girls' hockey, boys' rugby and *Grease* rehearsals. Fixtures are starting up again and both boys' and girls' teams have played home and away this week. Our 'Express Yourself' Evening is taking place this coming Wednesday and we are looking forward to seeing some of our amazingly talented students perform again. I have been enjoying taking Year 6 families on tours around the school and seeing the calm and purposeful atmosphere around school. We are looking forward to welcoming Year 7 students and parent/carers into school on Monday night for our Information Evening.

I wish you all a happy Friday and hope you are looking forward to the weekend. Thank you as always for the support you give to our students and to the school.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Harris
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary	
Year 7 Getting to Know You Evening	Monday 27 th September 2021
Express Yourself Evening	Wednesday 29 th September 2021
Year 12 Parent and Student Information Evening	Thursday 30 th September 2021
KKSA AGM	Monday 4 th October 2021
Year 10 Parent and Student Information Evening	Thursday 7 th October 2021
Staff INSET day	Friday 15 th October 2021
Break up for half term	Friday 22 nd October 2021
Students return from half term	Monday 1 st November 2021