# Kirkbie Kendal School

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MHs/BPe

14<sup>th</sup> July 2021

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

I am delighted to be writing to you as the future Headteacher of Kirkbie Kendal School. For those of you who don't know me, I have been Deputy Headteacher and Teacher of Geography at the school from January 2009. In that time I have loved working with our wonderful students, parents, carers and the fantastic staff team at the school and am looking forward to continuing to do so as Headteacher.

## **Changes to Covid Testing and Regulations**

The latest changes to Covid regulations mean that from 16<sup>th</sup> August anyone under 18 will no longer need to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact. Instead, children under 18 will be advised to take a PCR test by NHS Track and Trace. We would expect this to reduce the numbers of students who are asked to self-isolate as a close contact of a positive case.

On our return in September schools have been asked to give students two Lateral Flow Tests. These tests will be taken on site and must be three to five days apart. Following this, students will be asked to take two tests a week at home until at least the beginning of October.

### **Testing in School in September**

Years 7, 12 and 13 will be tested on the afternoon of Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September (shown as an INSET day on our Term Dates). This is the **day before** Year 7 and Year 12's start date of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Year 13 will start school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 will be tested on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. This is the day before their start date of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

All students will then be tested for a second time on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Further details about the testing, including more precise timing, will be sent home via Edulink in the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> August. Please look out for this email.

#### **Uniform and Equipment**

We will be looking for the highest possible standards for our whole school community in September, and want to ensure all students are smartly dressed in full school uniform and are properly equipped for their lessons in September. For a full uniform list please see our website: <a href="http://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/uniform3/170.html">http://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/uniform3/170.html</a>.

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Before the new term begins, please can you ensure that your son or daughter has a blazer, tie and that they have the correct trousers or skirt. Please also take the time to ensure they have smart school shoes, not trainers.

Over recent months a small number of students have had a nose piercing. We are reminding those students that they are not permitted, and so must be removed when in school. If your child has asked for a nose piercing please do help us treat everyone fairly by making sure it is able to be removed for school by September. This is also the same for multiple ear piercings. In September, in the interests of treating everyone fairly, skirts must not be rolled up and should be worn without a belt.

For PE, students should wear only proper school PE kit. Separate socks are important for hygiene. Boys should only wear school PE shorts with the appropriate school PE top — and the new school hoodie for warmth. Girls in Years 10 and 11 may wear dark plain leggings or skorts with a school PE top; girls in Years 7, 8 and 9 may wear plain dark leggings under a skort\_with a school PE top. Again - only the KKS hoodie should be worn as an extra layer. We fully expect the changing rooms to be back in use as normal and so all students should attend school in their uniform and change into their PE kit for lessons.

#### **Equipment**

The summer holidays are an ideal time to ensure that students have the right equipment for learning. We expect students to have a pencil case with a black or blue pen or pens, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor, calculator, compass and purple pens. To reduce sharing of equipment in classes, and as a response to Covid-19, we also ask students to bring a glue stick with them as well as some headphones to be used in music lessons.

Helping your son or daughter get everything they need in place for September will really help them have a smooth and successful start to the new school year. We look forward to seeing students back in September. In the meantime I hope that you and your families are able to enjoy a restful summer.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Harris Headteacher