



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL LICHFIELD

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Headteacher: Ms J Rutherford BA (Hons)

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have had a lovely half term break. We have enjoyed welcoming our students back to school this week and are proud of the way they have responded to the amendment in routines regarding the use of face coverings around the site. This has now been made compulsory in all secondary schools during transition periods through both the local alert level being raised to Tier 2 and the national lockdown measures. The safety of our students and staff remains our utmost priority and we thank you for your support and re-iterating these messages at home. We realise there will be a small number of students who are exempt from wearing face coverings and ask that you make us aware if this is the case.

We have been contacted by West Midlands railway and asked to remind parents and carers that the railway remains open for those travelling to school or college. If travelling by train, passengers are advised to check their journeys before travelling (at [www.wmr.uk/plan](http://www.wmr.uk/plan) or on [@WestMidRailway](https://twitter.com/WestMidRailway)). Wearing a face covering on board remains mandatory, unless exempt on medical grounds. We are working closely with Lichfield station and carrying out spot checks to ensure that our students are following the regulations in place.

We thank you for playing your part in helping to keep our school community safe. Please ensure that you do not send your child to school if any member of your household is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. The whole household should isolate until testing is complete. If the test is negative students can return to school. If a test is positive, Government guidelines should be followed.

Since our return to school we have been made aware of a number of positive Covid-19 test results amongst our student body. These test results have occurred during the half term break or have been reported early this week (whilst students have been isolating at home) and therefore no contacts of these cases have been identified within our school community. Please be assured that we have a stringent process in place on receiving information of a positive test for staff or students. We work closely with Public Health England and the DfE to identify possible contacts of identified cases. Parents and Carers of any contacts are contacted with directions from PHE regarding the isolation period and process. For staff, we continue to maintain a 2m distance from other staff and from students wherever possible in order to minimise risk and the need for self-isolation. Your support in encouraging your child to minimise direct physical contact with other children would be very much appreciated as it is quite a challenge for young people to appreciate its importance. We regularly remind students of the importance of washing hands, wearing a face covering, and following the one way system. Classrooms are ventilated with windows and doors open so we recommend that students wear additional layers under their uniform as the weather turns cooler.

In order to keep our staff and students safe at this challenging time parents and carers are reminded that they are not allowed into the school building without a pre-arranged 'essential' appointment. Students should ensure that they have all of their necessary equipment for the school day. If students forget equipment/books/homework/ingredients, we politely request that you do not bring these items into school at this time as we are unable to deliver these items to individual classrooms.

We would like to thank Mr Cotton for preparing a remote Remembrance Day assembly which has been delivered by tutors in form time this week. Given the importance of keeping year groups separate at the moment, it is difficult to carry out our usual methods of selling poppies in school. We are keen to continue to remind students of the importance of Remembrance Day, to thank those who made sacrifices for us and raise funds for the Royal British Legion. We will continue to support this cause and have added a donation option to ParentPay. We are extremely grateful for donations received.

Whilst we are disappointed not to host our usual face to face Sixth Form open evening, we are delighted to share with you a link to our virtual one. So many of our students and staff have contributed to the production of this and we hope that prospective Sixth Form students and their families find it useful in helping to make an informed decision regarding next steps. A range of videos can be accessed on our website – <http://sixthform.keslichfield.org.uk>

We look forward to sending out our next newsletter in two weeks time to update you further on the activities and achievements at King Edward VI School.

Yours Faithfully

Ms Rutherford  
Headteacher

Mrs Forster  
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Hurn  
Deputy Headteacher