



KING HENRY VIII SCHOOL

Ysgol Brenin Harri'r VIII

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Dear Parents and guardians,

It is with great pleasure we set out our outline plans for the safe return of our Year 7 students to face-to-face learning. As a school community the past year has been a roller coaster of experiences, we have all had to overcome challenges and for some life has been difficult. However, it is really important we celebrate what our students have achieved, what they have learnt and how we can use these skills and experiences to support them as they embark on the next stage of their learning. We know that many of our students have been working incredibly hard. They are rapidly becoming resilient, independent learners who have developed a wide range of technological skills. In fact, we could be welcoming back the most mature and skilled students we have ever had. Our aim as a school is to look **“forward to a successful future”**.

Year 7 are to attend school on Friday 19 March and Friday 26 March. In the past week we have surveyed our students to ask them what they need in terms of wellbeing and learning support to make a successful return. Our provision shall be personalised to them and our aim is that Year 7 have a chance to ‘check in’ and receiving some face to face teaching.

Many of our protective measures and safe routines remain however in some cases these have been strengthened. Key changes are:

- ✓ Nearly all students will be expected to wear a face covering (3ply) within the school building and the classroom. Those few students that are exempt on medical/ALN grounds will be provided with a lanyard so all staff and other students are aware of this. The school has received its Welsh Government allocation of suitable face coverings and these shall be issued to students on their return.
- ✓ All staff and students in Years 10 and above are participating in twice weekly voluntary Lateral Flow Device testing.

Our guidance booklet will be published later this week and sets out in detail our revised protective measures and safe routines. These adhere to the latest Welsh Government [operational guidance](#). As part of our induction process with students, we will revisit our safe routines plus go through any changes.

Our staff shall be undertaking on-site professional learning on Friday 12 March in preparation for the return of students. There will be online learning provision however teachers will not be available on this day. Our educational on-site provision for vulnerable learners and children of critical workers will run on Friday 12 March and continue to run up to Easter on all days Year 7 are not in school.

The guidance booklet will also outline our expectations with regards to uniform for all students. No students will be expected to wear uniform prior to Easter however as from Monday 12 April we are expecting Year 7 to be back in full uniform.

We cannot wait to have students back on site and trust we can use the time purposeful prior to Easter so that our students are well placed to make progress in the summer term.

Yours faithfully,

Elsbeth Lewis

Executive Headteacher

Mark Stockham

Head of school