



July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well; I am well aware that this has been a really difficult time for so many. I would like to issue a number of thanks to our school community for their response to these unimaginable circumstances that we have found ourselves in:

- thanks to our parents who have been so generous with their kind words of support and had such a tough job balancing life, work and remote learning
- thanks to our students who have had to adapt to a new way of doing things. It is testament to their resilience that our student engagement rate is so high
- thanks to our staff who have been flexible and adaptable, balancing new working practices alongside the personal impact of this crisis to ensure that we met the challenge.

This is most definitely the strangest end of term I have ever experienced; the added uncertainty over exactly what will happen in September only complicates things further. Some of you have shared understandable reservations, and guidance is open to change, for instance the current debate over wearing masks. It is for this very reason that we have scheduled our detailed planning in August. We hope by then some of these issues will have reached a resolution and the guidance will be much clearer. Until then we have produced our broad principles for re-opening, information for parents on how they can prepare for September and our plans for the first few days in September. Find more information here: <https://www.knbs.co.uk/coronavirus>

I would like to reassure you that the plans we have put in place for the increased contact with Year 10 and Keyworkers' children have worked well and provided valuable experience. Although things will be different to normal in September, we are confident that we can get all students back into school successfully, and we are looking forward to seeing our boys again.

Further Updates:

Provision of Summer Work

One of the biggest challenges has been catering for the vast contrast in each family's requirements, needs and expectations. I once more thank those families who have been so supportive and grateful of our considered approach.

Following recent parental requests, our English and Maths teams have put together some summer work which has been uploaded to SMH. Evidence would suggest that it is important for our boys to take a break from their studies, and this different way of working will have taken its toll. However, this work is there as an optional extra for those families who want to maintain some work over the summer break.

For those boys who have examinations next year, many of their teachers have provided them with additional resources to ease their anxieties. I do again request that there is some enforced time off so that they can relax and recharge those batteries ready for September.

School Day Consultation

Thank you to those that provided feedback. We can confirm our new school day will look like this:

8.30am	Registration and assembly
8.50am – 9.50am	Period 1
9.50am – 10.50am	Period 2
10.50am – 11.10am	Break
11.10am – 12.10pm	Period 3
12.10pm – 1.10pm	Period 4
1.10pm – 1.55pm	Lunch break
1.55pm – 2.55pm	Period 5
2.55pm – 3.05pm	Afternoon registration
3.05pm	School ends

These changes are for the long-term future of the school, however, please note that we may need to incorporate short-term changes to the school day to support the return of all students in September (e.g. to enable staggered arrival or exit).

Year 11 Results Day

We would like to acknowledge what an incredibly strange year it has been for our 2020 Leavers, and, to support them, we plan to run as normal as possible results morning on the 20th August. Follow this link for more information: <https://www.knbs.co.uk/y11updates>

Building Works

There is a significant amount of work going on during the Summer, partly to prepare for September and partly as we continue to make long-term improvements to the school site. This includes:

- continuation of the new Sports Hall building; completion due early October
- demolition of the old gym to begin

- new windows to be fitted to the rear of the main block
- creating three new classrooms within the current building
- refurbishment of one of our computer rooms (funded from the Sports Hall Project)
- painting and refurbishment work.

It will clearly be a busy summer getting things in place for September. My team and I will be in touch again towards the end of August with an update on the plans for re-opening. We wish you all a restful summer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Clayton', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mr D Clayton
Headteacher