## Kirkbie Kendal School

Lound Road, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 7EQ 01539 727422 ● www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk ● info@kksa.co.uk

Phil Hyman BSc MA **Assistant Headteachers:** Carla Barker BA Headteacher: Mark Harris BA Mike Bousfield BA

Deputy Headteacher: Associate Assistant Headteachers: Helen Ronan MSci Business Manager: Amanda Eastwood BA

Jonathan Shepherd BA

PHn/BPe

10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Dear parents and carers

I hope this finds you well and that the start of the school academic year has gone well for your family. Thank you for your enormous support and encouragement for our opening to all students. The students are looking very smart, thank you for all the effort put into sourcing uniforms, masks and stationery. I am pleased to say that attendance is currently at 98.5%; although only the first week, this is actually higher than the same week in previous years.

The new school systems have been implemented with success overall - we are learning as we go along and will continue to make improvements to how we manage the school day. A big help to us please, would be to ensure your child has a mask in their bag or pocket before they leave for school. A spare mask, particularly if using the paper disposable masks which are sometimes a bit flimsy, is also a good idea. We kept a contingency supply for emergencies and that supply has been exhausted once already. Apologies in advance, but we cannot maintain the current level of provision of masks to children who do not bring one to school. Going forward, should students forget their mask, prior to the start of the school day they will be able to call you to get one delivered for them or gain permission to pop home to collect their mask where practicable to do so.

Regarding CV-19 and what to do should someone have symptoms school has been asked to share the following instructions from Public Health England:

Please be alert at home to CV-19 symptoms, which are a continuous cough, a high temperature above 37.8 Celsius, or a loss of or change to normal sense of taste/smell.

Q. What do I do if someone in my household has a symptom of CV-19, ie, continuous cough, high temperature above 37.8 Celsius, loss of or change to normal sense of taste/smell?

A. The person with a symptom must isolate at home for 10 days from the day the symptom(s) started and follow stay at home guidance. All other household members must start to isolate for 14 days and follow the stay at home guidance. The person with symptom(s) should get a test. Arrange a test by booking online - you may use this link, or call 119. Please keep the school informed of when they have the test and also the result of the test.

- If the test is negative the individual can return to school straight away as long as they-have not had a high temperature for 48 hours
- If the test in inconclusive another test needs to be booked and isolation continued
- If the test is positive the individual needs to continue with their 10 day isolation at home. They can return to school after 10 days if they have not had a high temperature for 48 hours and feel well. Others in their household need to continue with their 14 day 'isolation at home' period and should get tested if they develop symptoms
- Close contacts from the bubble/setting will need to go home and isolate for 14 days from the date they were last in contact with the individual who has tested positive (their wider household do NOT need to isolate)
- School will inform all parents within the year group bubble to ensure they watch for symptoms
- Testing will not routinely be offered to individuals who do not have symptoms, so contacts do not need to be tested, unless informed otherwise via health protection services.

I am delighted to say that students have responded well to our new systems around school and that their behaviour has been very good. School staff had been reviewing the behaviour for learning policy, including reward points, before CV-19 and we have made changes - temporary at this stage - to enable us to maintain year group bubbles. As the changes are temporary they need to be read in conjunction with the Behaviour for Learning Policy. Both documents are available on the school website in the About Us / Policies and Procedures section.

Next week we would have held our Year 6 Open Evening. This year we have created a 'Virtual Open Evening' that will include a welcome from me, a video tour of the school made by students, and a short presentation clip from each subject/department. The Virtual Open Evening will be made available to everyone on the school website from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September.

The KKSA, our school PTA, will have their AGM via video link on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm. There will be a separate letter about the KKSA coming to you next week.

Take care and best wishes.

Yours faithfully

P Hyman Headteacher