

16th December 2020

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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

Dear Parent/Carer,

## End of Term Information

I am sure you will agree that since October we have all had to deal with a growing anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact that this has had on all our lives. Unfortunately, as the number of positive cases rose in Medway, we encountered a huge spike in staff absences due to the need for staff to self-isolate or shield. This meant that we were forced to ask certain year groups to remain at home and engage in online learning instead of attending the Academy. I fully appreciate the disruption that this caused families and I am hugely grateful to parents, carers, staff, and students for remaining so positive and supportive after what has been described as, 'the most gruelling term in England's educational history'.

Moving forward I am trying to remain optimistic about a full return to school for all students and staff in the new year, and would like to clarify the following dates for return in January 2021:

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021** – Staff Development Day. The Academy is closed to **ALL** students.
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021** – **ALL** students to return to the Academy.

### Additional dates to remember:

- **17<sup>th</sup> December 2020** - Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 student reports issued.
- **13<sup>th</sup> January 2021**- Year 7 and Year 10 student reports issued.
- **14<sup>th</sup> January 2021**- Year 11 Parents' Evening – this will be online and further details regarding how to make appointments will be sent to parents and carers nearer the time.
- **21<sup>st</sup> January 2021** –Year 12 and Year 13 Parents' Evening – this will be online and further details regarding how to make appointments will be sent to parents and carers nearer the time.
- **27<sup>th</sup> January 2021** - Year 8 and Year 9 student reports issued.

With regards to the tracing of positive COVID-19 cases being reported during the Christmas break; Public Health England has asked heads to agree to a six day window after the end of term in which schools are being asked to remain contactable so that we can assist with 'contact tracing' where necessary.

This means that parents and carers are being asked to contact the Academy via the email address below to report any positive cases with their child. The last date for reporting is the 24<sup>th</sup> December, and after that date we will not require you to contact us.

Contact: [ukatcovidreporting@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:ukatcovidreporting@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

I would also like to inform you of some changes we have made to the location of some year group bubble zones, to enable better access to specialist teaching rooms required by certain option subjects in Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form. These areas will have been completely fogged and will be wholly compliant with all the COVID protocols which are currently in place.

**From 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

- **6<sup>th</sup> Form** 'bubble zone' will be located in **Keynes**. Students must enter via the entrance opposite **REACH**.
- **Year 11** 'bubble zone' is now located in **Woolf**. Students must enter and exit via the external door to the **Sports Hall** and use the first set of stairs to enter their zone.
- **Year 10** 'bubble zone' is now located in **Rutherford**. Students must enter and exit via the **Community entrance**.

Lastly, I would like to wish Judy Rider our long serving CEO all the very best for her retirement. Judy has spent over forty years working in education and leaves behind a huge legacy. A testament to her transformational leadership, drive and commitment is the popularity of Brompton Academy, and its status in Medway as a successful secondary school.

I wish you and your families a very 'Merry Christmas' and a 'Happy New Year', and I would like to thank you again for your on-going support during this last term.

Yours faithfully,

Jenny Best  
**UKAT Executive Principal**

