

Thursday 16th December 2021



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Headteacher: Ms Helen Bridge BA MA

Dear Parent/Carer

Wednesday 5th January

The government guidance dictates that all children need to be tested at school, before coming back to mainstream education in the new year. This feels sensible, and will allow us to ensure that every child coming back to Kineton High School is returning to a learning space that is principally Covid free at the start of the new term. That said, in order to ensure every child is tested we have set aside Wednesday 5th January as the testing day, and therefore we switch back to remote learning for one day only.

As teachers are involved in the mammoth testing process during the course of the day on the 5th, they will set work on Microsoft Teams through the assignments feature, of which all should be available to access by 8:30am on the school day. The work set will be intended to either gear the learning towards consolidatory activities, or may be flipped learning in which case it is designed to prepare the students for new material in the forthcoming lessons as they return to school in person. All the work set will be purposeful, and is intended to foster a sense of independence but with guided support. Please assure children they will not be in trouble if they struggle to access the remote learning, but equally this is an excellent opportunity for them to transition back from the holiday season to embracing school and education in 2022.

3 Principles of learning in Kineton High School lessons

In January the school will be launching three mainstays of every lesson, two of which the students are already familiar with. Each lesson will have a period of silent study whereby the students can work in calm, orderly conditions and really explore the content material and their own thoughts on the matter. There will also be the practice of cold calling in every lesson to increase engagement across all students, through careful and personalised questioning teachers will be able to develop more active and confident learners. Finally, we will be starting each lesson with a revise in 5 activity across the whole school. This ensures students continue to retrieve content or material they have learnt a few days, weeks, months or even years ago and solidify the understanding in their long-term memory. The current set of GCSEs are ambitious in scope, but are intensely knowledge driven. The knowledge curriculum will expertly prepare students for life in 2022 and throughout the 21st century, and as part of this teachers will be ensuring that students don't just know more than previous cohorts, but can actually remember more too.

Please encourage the children to switch off over Christmas, and enjoy the precious time with their family. Then we will hit the ground running from Tuesday 5th with remote learning, and welcome them back with open arms to the first day in person on Thursday 6th January.

Yours sincerely,

John Larner

Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum/Teaching & Learning