

28<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

Dear Parent/Carer

**RE: Update on COVID guidance - returning to the Academy**

We are pleased to inform you that following further advice from Public Health England that we are now able to ask students in Years 12 and 13 UKAT Sixth Form, and Year 9 to return to the academy on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**. However, students who have been identified as having contact with the student/students who tested positive for COVID have been contacted on an individual basis and will be instructed to continue to self isolate and remain at home.

This decision has been made based on further advice which we received from Public Health England which provides guidelines to use in order to identify and track a closer group of students who may have had contact with the student/students who were confirmed as being tested positive with COVID 19.

- The student's friendship group.
- Identify who the student has been sitting next to for more than 15 minutes and within a space of 2 metres.
- Identify who the student has had face to face contact with for more than 1 minute.

As we have systems in place to identify these students it has been possible to directly contact these students and their families and also eliminate other students from potentially being at risk because they do not fall into the criteria listed above. This means that we are now in a position to allow most students in these year group bubbles to return to school safely.

In addition the site at CG has also been fogged and is compliant with DfE and government guidelines with regards to COVID protective procedures; students and staff are also following daily routines of hand sanitizing on entry to the buildings and entry and exit of classrooms, students and staff are temperature tested on entry to the academy, we also have enhanced cleaning routines and have in place designated cleaners for each year group bubble, face masks for staff and students are also optional, but we would seek to encourage the wider use of face masks as an additional protective measure.

In future should we have any confirmed positive COVID tests within any year group bubble we will be applying the criteria provided by Public Health England [listed in the bullet points above] to undertake a risk assessment of the situation and minimize the disruption to your child's education whilst also safeguarding their health.

Therefore, unless your child is displaying any of the recognised COVID symptoms the expectation is that they return to school on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**.

Just a reminder that due to the COVID measures we have put in place it is essential that your child does not arrive onsite prior to 8am. This is because the enhanced COVID cleaning regimes have to be completed. However, as the weather is deteriorating, students will now be able to enter the building and go directly to the classrooms from 8am onwards.

Yours sincerely,



Wendy Walters  
Principal