

King Edwin Primary School

Head Teacher Mr Callaghan-Wetton
Fourth Avenue, Edwinstowe, Notts, NG21 9NS
Tel: (01623) 822111 Fax: (01623) 825707
E Mail: office@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk
Website: www.kingedwin.notts.sch.uk



Sunday 3rd January 2021

King Edwin Primary School - Returning on Monday 4th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from my communication yesterday, I am writing to **confirm that we will be open tomorrow as planned**. This decision is based upon the local information available (Newark & Sherwood Statistics) and national guidance from the DFE.

You will be aware from the media that schools across the country are in an uncertain position with regard to their operation in coming weeks. These uncertainties result from the increased COVID-19 infection rates, in particular of the new variant, resulting in a greater risk to community health.

I must stress that all families must be prepared in the eventuality that our current stance alters and our remote learning provision is implemented. In such circumstances we would only be providing face to face provision for a specified group of children where parents are essential key workers and where no other childcare is available for these children.

King Edwin Primary School would like to remain open for as many students as possible and in a way which protects both education and community health. However, there are growing concerns about the large numbers of pupils in confined spaces and the fact that this could fuel transmission rates both within and beyond school. We have been and will be monitoring the local data very carefully in order to respond quickly if this local picture alters in any way.

Presently the government is asking for all primary schools in our area to remain open for all pupils. Secondary schools are beginning a phased return over the course of January. This has been met by calls from various Unions in the past few days stating all schools should be closed.

At this particular point in time we have almost a full complement of KEPS staff attending tomorrow and as such, we will be able to open under the strict measures that have been in place at school throughout the pandemic. Staff will be observing measures very carefully and I ask that all parents support us by following all protective procedures explicitly - arriving at the allocated times (see website) and wearing masks on the school site upon drop off and collection.

It is inevitable that uncertainty brings strain and concern during these unprecedented times, however this is the reality of the current situation and as ever your ongoing support and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Whatever the decisions made either now or in the future, some will agree and others disagree. Please be assured we are doing our best to make the most informed decisions we can at any time. We remain committed to providing a quality education for children in KEPS, while mitigating the risks presented by COVID-19 within the school community.

With vaccines on the horizon and over 1 million doses administered already, brighter times are ahead and a more stable situation for the provision of education will no doubt follow. Please try to remain positive and remember to contact school through helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk if you need any support. Please also contact us if any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19. It is imperative that we are notified as early as possible.

Kind regards,
Mr Callaghan-Wetton

