

# King Edwin Primary School



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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## ALL CHILDREN TO RETURN ON MARCH 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Thankfully we are moving closer to the date when all children at KEPS will be able to return to school. The children have been talking about this all week and we are sure that many parents were very pleased to hear the announcement from the Prime Minister last Sunday. We are all ecstatic and can't wait to see our KingEdwinners all together again.

Next week we will be sharing documents that support our return to school and we will be placing them on our website alongside other useful resources. You will recognise that most of our plans and procedures will be very similar to when we were in school before this third national lock down. We will certainly be maintaining a very cautious approach as we want the children in school for good. We do not want to see the return of whole school remote learning again any time soon...the children did well, but we all prefer to teach them face to face; it really is the best for all concerned.

**I would like to share a few details about changes you may see from March the 8th when children return:**

- continued staggered starts and finishes
- consistent year group bubbles
- strict hand washing and sanitising
- teaching in rows across Years 1-6
- warm packed lunch/baguettes and warm wraps etc
- minimal use of halls and communal space
- masks used by adults on pickup and collection
- adults in school with masks (communal spaces only)
- further increased cleaning regimes
- continued track and trace isolation routine
- no clubs until after Easter
- increased outdoor learning
- doubled play and social times up to Easter

**Our current plans after the Easter period may also include the following:**

- consistent bubbles - perhaps keystages
- Tuition for some children in English and Maths
- Extension of the school day through extra-curricular clubs (over 30 clubs planned so far)
- Year 4 swimming sessions to return

Obviously we will be introducing 'normality' in a very gradual and careful way. Whilst all government guidance will be followed very strictly, we will be making sure that we move at the appropriate pace for our KingEdwinners children and in the best interests of our school community.

The initial return phase will be all about socialising and reintegrating back into school life. Our children have been used to quite a strong remote learning routine and this should help with the return on **March the 8<sup>th</sup>**. That being said...they need time to make that transition and this is the reason why we are making significant provision for socialising and playing with their classmates again.

Although a clear daily structure will be in place consisting of our usual core and foundation subjects, the children will engage in a range of experiences that will help them emotionally, physically, mentally and academically. We have many experienced school staff that are fully prepared to support the children with a range of interventions and activities upon return.



In the summer term, our plans are extensive and I expect every child to finish this academic year on a high. We have so much planned for them and whilst we cannot expect nor even try to 'catch up' on time lost through COVID, we can fill our children's lives with at least some of what they have been missing over the course of the year. They fully deserve this!

Please remember...we are here to help and will always do our best to point families in the right direction whenever possible. The COVID pandemic is still with us...people are still being impacted by the virus and we expect that this will be the case for some time yet. We are under no illusions that our help and support line will still be invaluable to some of our KingEdwinner families for at least a while. Please get in touch if you need us or have any concerns about the return to school.

Email : [helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk](mailto:helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk)

Finally, I would like to end by issuing my heartfelt thanks and best wishes to all of you for what you have managed to do for your children over the past year or so. I really hope that this is the beginning of the end in terms of COVID disruption in school and the rest of society. I am very proud of our KEPS team and of the community that support our little KingEdwinners. Each and every one of us have played our part and as a result, I truly believe that our children are going to be okay...they really are!

Take care and stay safe. We can't wait to see you all very soon.

Mr Callaghan-Wetton (Headteacher)

