

26th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been delighted with the engagement of our students during this period of national lockdown. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child engage with all of their online learning. I hope your child has found the live lessons through Microsoft Teams to be an effective substitute to being in the classroom; I do hope we can welcome them back soon.

I would like to thank all our staff for their herculean efforts in moving from classroom based to remote teaching. We are all learning together how to make this as effective as possible; the progress made by our fantastic team of staff has been phenomenal. I know sometimes technology can frustrate us, but I have been overwhelmed by the response of the whole school community to these unprecedented challenges. If your child is continuing to have any issues in accessing their own device or internet connection, please contact Mrs Doherty adoherty@ketteringscienceacademy.org so we can support in getting all our students online and ready to learn.

To help you in encouraging your child to complete all of their online learning, we will be sending home a weekly report. Starting during the week of 1st February, you will be emailed a report showing the number of lessons your child has attended for each subject and a summary of their engagement: have they participated in the lesson and completed the work set. I do hope this information is valuable to you. I would encourage you to sit down with your child and discuss the report. Please congratulate and praise your child where they have strong attendance and engagement. Please try to identify any barriers to subjects where engagement is less strong and talk to us about these. We are all here to help your child be the best they can be.

We understand this is a very difficult time for you and your children. If you are concerned about your child and how they are coping please contact your child's tutor in the first instance, alternatively you, or they, can email helpme@ketteringscienceacademy.org and someone will make contact. Wellbeing information can also be found on the website <http://www.ketteringscienceacademy.org/page/?title=Wellbeing&pid=140>, as well as in the weekly 'Padlet' issued each Friday. If you would like to discuss family issues (for example food, financial issues or housing etc.) please contact Laurie Chapman who can help lchapman@ketteringscienceacademy.org. We encourage the view that *We all have the right to feel safe all of the time and We can talk with someone about anything, even if it feels awful or small* so please do get in touch.



We recognise that learning is different right now and this may be challenging for your children with SEND. Our SEND team are working hard to support your children whether they are in school or learning at home. We will continue to support the needs of your children within the resources available. If you have any questions or queries please contact Sarah Wilkins, Assistant SENCO swilkins@ketteringscienceacademy.org who will be happy to help or speak to a member of the SEND team when they contact you during their check-ins.

Whilst we have a small number of students on site that work very hard all day, the school is not the same without all of its students. We cannot wait to have our school full again when it is safe for us all to do so.

Please take care of yourselves, each other and our community.

Yours faithfully,



Tony Segalini
Principal



Be the best you can be

Our expectations for students when remote learning

Be Ready to learn

Punctuality is important as it supports learning and the learning of others. Students should aim to be ready to learn at the start of each lesson, so that all student and teachers can make the most of each live online lesson

Ideally, students should be in a quiet location with no music or background noise (if this is going to be difficult, please let the teacher know as soon as you can).

To avoid any student falling behind in their learning, it is essential that everyone attends all their live online lessons as scheduled and submits work by the deadlines set. If a lesson cannot be attended, for example because they are unwell, parents should contact the school.

Be Respectful

Students should reply to the teacher when asked – even if it is only to say they don't know an answer. Students may be asked to respond using the Meeting Chat or microphones if they are being used.

Students who engage with and contribute positively to lessons will continue to be rewarded using K Points. They will be recognised by their tutor and Head of Year.

Where student conduct falls below our expectations, the teacher may mute or remove them from the lesson. If this happens, students must not unmute themselves or re-join the session unless the teacher has invited them to do so.

Further poor behaviour may result in them being placed in the virtual lobby by the teacher so that they cannot re-join until the teacher or Head of Year has discussed the matter with their parents and carers and, if necessary, appropriate sanctions have been put in place.

Be Safe

Lessons will be scheduled by teachers; for students' safety, meetings must not be scheduled by students. Cameras and microphones must be switched off. Meeting Chat must only be used for purposes related to the learning in the lesson. Students may ask and answer questions or contribute their ideas. If any inappropriate or unkind behaviour takes place, for example students commenting on classmates' contributions to the lesson, parents and carers will be contacted to discuss the matter.

Please ensure that you and your child have watched the IT Acceptable Use video on the website.

If you have any queries or questions please do contact the school. Thank you for your continued support.

