

23rd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the first term at Kettering Science Academy is coming to a conclusion I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your overwhelming support in helping the Academy steer our way through the current Covid-19 situation.

Since I last wrote to you I can report that we have operated our broad and balanced curriculum in an efficient way as possible so that students have been able to make the best of the time lost during lockdown and make further progress with their education, this has not been without challenges. However, due to the professionalism and dedication of the staff we have been able to meet these challenges and Kettering Science Academy has operated in as normal manner as possible.

I hope that this level of support will continue into the next term, particularly in your confidence in believing that the Academy is a safe environment for your students to study in and the quality of education provided for them, even under the difficult conditions of the current national emergency. I would like to remind you all of the necessity of students providing masks to be worn in all communal areas of the school as this has contributed to a lack of Covid-19 infections which is much lower than national figures suggest. We currently only have 3 students that have proved positive and no staff members.

I am really pleased to announce the opening of our brand new Sixth Form facility which is an £8million project and firmly puts Kettering Science Academy Sixth Form in the forefront of post-16 education. This is an important development for the Academy and reflects the confidence of all stakeholders in its future development. The building will be in full operation from Monday 2nd November as a bespoke Sixth Form Centre which is an exciting opportunity for all students to aspire to.

As the autumn and cooler weather has now arrived I would like to take this opportunity to remind you and your children that only school, plain black, jumpers can be worn underneath blazers in the school building. All students should also have an outdoor coat if they require an extra layer to wear on top of their blazer. Hoodie's and other casual jersey type material jumpers/jackets or hoodie's are not allowed and must be removed as they enter the building. If a student is found wearing a hoodie inside school it will be confiscated until the end of the day. Failure to comply with this rule or hand over the hoodie will lead to further action. Additionally elastic bands and loom bands are banned also.

Online safety is very important for our students. I would like to make you aware of the free Online Safety Course for parents and carers run by National Online Safety (NOS) – information about this can be found at <https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/free-parents-course>. NOS also have a weekly guide for parents which can be found at <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>. Information about these, and other, ways you can support your children to be safe online can be found on the Academy website.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the recent wellbeing survey. We will issue the results and subsequent actions after half term. If you or your family require additional support please don't hesitate to contact us by telephone or email (details at the top of this letter). Your child's Head of Year, the SEND Team or Safeguarding Team



(which includes Family Support and Early Help) can also be contacted for help and guidance. A list of Who's Who can be found at <http://www.ketteringscienceacademy.org/page/?title=Who%27s+Who&pid=79>.

I am pleased to let you know that we are continuing our work with Pets as Therapy after half term and the Nurture Dog will be once again coming to the Academy to work with selected students. If your child will be involved with this you will receive a letter with further information and to gain parental permission. If your child is allergic to dogs please do make sure that we are aware of this and we will ensure no contact is made.

If there are any further developments in the operation of the Academy during the current crisis I will, of course, inform you as soon as possible. Going into the break I am very proud of what the Academy has achieved in operating under these extreme circumstances and can assure you that I will do my very best to maintain the educational experience for all of our students going forward.

Should your child test positive for Covid-19 over the holiday could you please inform the Academy on 01536 532733 or email enquiries@ketteringscienceacademy.org so that we are aware.

I do hope that everybody has a nice break and I look forward to welcoming everybody back well refreshed for our next term which starts on Monday 2nd November. Please be reminded that students are not permitted to access the Academy before 8.15am.

Yours sincerely



Tony Segalini
Principal

