



Growing
Talent,
Promoting
Community

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Executive Headteacher: Mr P Cavanagh
Head of School: Mr C Leng
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15th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in ensuring all pupils return to Kelvin Hall School this week after the staggered school Covid-19 testing programme. As of this week all year groups are in school and **ALL pupils are expected to attend as normal.**

As per government guidance, it is vital for all pupils to return fully to school to minimise the longer-term impact of the recent national lockdowns in March 2020 and January 2021 on their education, wellbeing and wider development. Missing out on any more time in the classroom, no matter how little, risks pupils falling further behind.

Therefore, as of September 2021 and onwards I would like to remind you that it is:

- The parents' duty and responsibility to send their child to school every day where they are of compulsory school age.
- The parents' duty and responsibility to inform the school if their child is unable to attend, for example, medical reasons.
- The schools' responsibility to record attendance and follow up all absences, supporting and working with all families in our community to promote outstanding attendance.
- The school and Local Authority's responsibility to use legal sanctions, including penalty notices and prosecution if and where necessary this academic year.

It goes without saying that pupils with higher overall absence tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school. The more your child is in school, the more they will catch up and progress over the coming months.

In addition, this is not the time to take any pupil out of school for a family holiday or any other term-time leave. It is highly unlikely that any leave will be authorised by the school.

If you have any worries about your child attending school, the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with the school directly. The school has specialist support staff who will always be able to help.

I would like to thank you for your anticipated support and sincerely wish you and your child all the best for the coming academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Christopher Leng
Head of School
Kelvin Hall School

