



**Queen Katharine
Academy**

A proud member of



Principal: Mrs Lynn Mayes
Queen Katharine Academy
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Our Ref LMa/jd

9 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for the support you have shown to the Academy as we have all adapted to the challenges presented by the third national lockdown.

We understand that you are juggling many pressures as you manage your child's remote learning and we really appreciate the work that you have been doing with them. However, despite the difficulties and challenges, we are delighted to say that the majority of our students are engaging extremely well with their learning. We sincerely thank you for your considerable part in this.

Remote learning will never replace face to face learning in the classroom, but it is fantastic to see so many students working so well to engage with their teachers.

As you are aware from my previous letter, we are holding a Remote Learning Review Day on Wednesday 10th February. Tutors are really looking forward to meeting with you and your child, to review their remote learning engagement and ensure that you feel fully supported. Appointments are still available on <https://queenkatharine.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

On Friday 12th February, students will continue with their usual timetabled lessons up until 11.15am. After this time, they will be expected to engage with our exciting reading challenges and take some time away from their screens. Details will follow about the menu of activities that will be available and with which your child can engage on Friday.

We will be continuing with remote learning after half term, from the 22nd February, and we will keep you updated with any arrangements about a wider school opening as and when the government shares plans with us.

Please be aware that the Academy will be **closed to all children during the half term week (15th – 19th February)**. If your child is currently in school because you are a key worker, or they are vulnerable, we still have a responsibility to engage with NHS track and trace over the half term holiday. The table below summarises what to do if your child is in school and tests positive during the holiday period. In all cases we ask that you email us at: info@qka.education.

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What to do if my child is accessing the QKA keyworker provision in school and tests positive for Covid-19 during the Half Term holidays?

Symptoms began on (or date of positive test if asymptomatic)	How to contact the school	Action Required
Saturday 13 th Feb	Email info@qka.education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parents inform school immediately identifying any close contacts.• School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact Thursday 11th and Friday 12th February.• School will notify individuals who will have to self-isolate for 10 days.
Sunday 14 th Feb	Email info@qka.education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parents inform school immediately identifying any close contacts.• School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact Friday 12th February.• School will notify individuals who will have to self-isolate for 10 days.
Monday 15 st Feb – Sunday 21 st Feb	Email info@qka.education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms, the case was not in the school setting when infectious and it is unlikely there will be further action from school in the holidays.• You will receive an automated reply, but your information will be logged by on Monday 22nd February.• You must also engage with *NHS Test and Trace.

*** After the period when the school is responsible for test and trace, it is the parents' responsibility to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>**

To ensure these arrangements, work effectively and minimise the risk of compromising families' half term break, please adhere to the following:

- Parents to seek tests via testing centres rather than via postal tests as this can significantly delay confirmation of results. Results are normally forthcoming in 24 hours via test centres.
- Parents to notify school if children have symptoms after schools close (as outlined above) – even when waiting for a test result, families can be advised to take necessary steps whilst awaiting confirmation.
- To minimise the risk of infection within school (and the wider community) please ensure you continue to adhere to social distancing protocol and National lockdown information.

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If there is anything you are at all unsure about regarding these arrangements, please contact the school before the end of this half term.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs L Mayes'.

Mrs L Mayes
Principal