



Kingswinford Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust

Kingswinford Academy Parent Bulletin
25th - 29th January 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

As we progress further into this lockdown, I know we are all considering how long school closures are likely to last. We have been assured by Gavin Williamson this week that schools would be given 2 weeks notice and he has expressed his desire that students will be able to return before Easter - however it does look increasingly likely that we may not be able to return after the February Half Term.

Given that the lockdown is likely to continue for some more time, engagement in remote education until we return is critically important. We know from the last lockdown that students who did not engage in their learning made substantially less progress than those who did. For students of any year group, then, their engagement in remote education has a profound effect on their education. To help you manage and work with your child in planning their education each week, we are introducing 'Google Guardian'. This is a service that can send you regular email updates with a summary of your child's online learning, helping you to see work that has been set, when assignments are due for completion and alert you to any deadlines that have been missed. Please look below for more info on this great new service from Google and keep an eye out for further emails and communications with more detail.

As always, please stay safe and have a good weekend,

Tom Macdonald
Headteacher

Contents

Introduction

Wellbeing

INSET Day 29th January

Class Charts

Year 7 & 8 Parents' Evenings

Live Lesson Updates

Google Guardian

E-Safety

Wellbeing Questionnaire

Ask For ANI

Notices from Dudley Local Authority

Wellbeing

R Maybury



As well as keeping ourselves and our families physically safe and well during these difficult times, it's also really important to look after our mental wellbeing.

Thanks to organisations like the Mental Health Foundation, Mind, the NHS and many more, we're able to share tried and tested strategies and resources with you to help you manage your wellbeing alongside signposting for organisations that can help out when things are a bit tough.

For help and advice for you and your loved ones, check out our Wellbeing page at

<https://sites.google.com/windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk/student-and-parent-guidance/wellbeing?authuser=0>

INSET Day 29th January

T Macdonald

We have a scheduled INSET day on 29th of January. **The school will be closed** on this date to all students and there will be no programme of Online lessons on that date.

Class Charts

S Wilkinson



As a reminder, live lesson messages are intended to try and ensure as many students as possible can engage in their live lessons. Each alert is not linked to any negative points on classcharts, nor does it affect student attendance records, but is sent for your information.

Your child will be notified prior to their live lesson. As a rule this will be the day before and an additional reminder will go out on the day too. If your child is unable to attend for any reason, please ensure they contact their teacher to let them know.

Unfortunately the email you receive is automated and cannot be replied to, however if you have any further questions please feel free to email info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible.

Also you will receive a weekly engagement/non engagement notification. This will be an overview per subject for the whole week. You will continue to receive this overall note even if we have received communication from yourselves re your child's absence as every child's engagement is recorded for our records. This is not attached to any negative points and is automatically generated. Again if you have any queries please email the address above.

Year 7 & 8 Parents' Evenings

S Fletcher

We have now scheduled 'virtual' Parents' Evenings for Year 7 and 8. These will both run on the evenings of the 3rd and 4th of February. Further information will be sent directly to parents detailing how to book appointment

Live Lesson Update

L Palmer



If your child experiences any issues in joining a live lesson please direct them to look for live lesson links in the stream on their Google Classroom and in the Header at the top of the Google Classroom - the link should be available in both places at least a few minutes before a live lesson is due to start.

If your child is having issues with joining a live lesson please check that they are not logged into any other Google Mail accounts, other than their school account, as this can cause issues with access to our school Google Classrooms.

Elevate Sessions

The recording for Elevate's parent webinar on **motivation** is now available to be watched back on this link:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/replay>. You can also download a summary sheet of the main

points [here](#). The recording will be available until **9th February**, which is when the next webinar is taking place.

The 9th February webinar is on **Stress and Wellbeing**, focusing on how to establish and maintain good routines during lockdown, how to manage stress levels, and what to do when stress gets overwhelming. The details are below:

Managing Student Stress & Wellbeing

Date: Tuesday 9th February 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:00pm

Registration link:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

This webinar will be suitable for parents of Years 7 through to 11.

You can sign up for any or all of the term's webinar series with the registration link above.

Google Guardian

L Palmer

Google Classroom
Guardian Email Summaries



Parents should expect to receive an invite to Google Guardian early next week. Google Guardian provides a weekly summary of Google Classroom activity, including approaching deadlines, missed deadlines and details of work set via Google Classroom. Use the link in the email to access your Google Guardian account. We are sure you will find this information useful,

allowing you to support your child with managing workload during these difficult times. If you do not wish to receive Google Guardian summaries, please ignore the email.

For more information about Google Guardian visit this link:

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/63881>

E-Safety

S Fletcher

Do you know who your children are talking to when they are online?

Would you let them talk to complete strangers in the street?

Ask your children, talk to them, find out!

Making sure your child is safe online is something you may be conscious of now even more than ever. As we have directed our learning online it has significantly increased the time our young people spend on line and I would therefore like to direct you to the many avenues of support you can access.

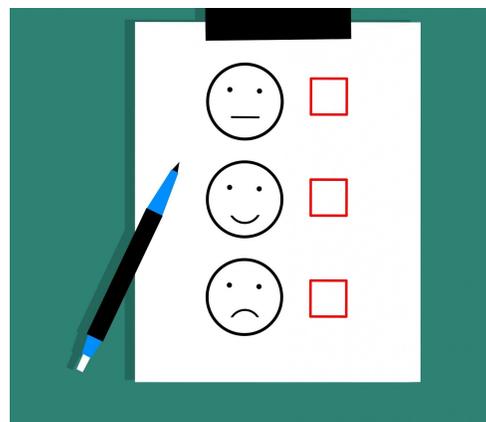
Our website under the Safeguarding page offers a vast amount of information and also has links to further websites such as Think You Know, where you can look at how to protect your children whilst they are online.

<https://www.kingswinfordacademy.org.uk/our-school/safeguarding/>

Please remember you can contact the school for help and advice about anything as you would have normally, either by email or calling the school directly.

Wellbeing Questionnaire

S Fletcher



We have shared a wellbeing questionnaire with all students to examine how they are feeling, the balance of workload and how they prefer to complete it. Could you please encourage them to complete it and discuss any areas of interest with them.

Parents and carers are also asked to complete their own questionnaire. The deadline is **Thursday 28th February**. School staff remain here to help you and your child so please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Ask For ANI

S Fletcher



Ask For "Ani" – Domestic Abuse Scheme Dudley Safeguarding team have asked us to highlight

the below help/advice.

Victims of Domestic Abuse can go into pharmacies and ask for domestic abuse help. By asking for “Ani” anyone suffering from domestic abuse will be taken into a private room and offered support. “Ani” represents an acronym for Action Need Immediately.

Notices from Dudley Local Authority

[Download the covid app](#) today



Keep up to date with [latest coronavirus advice](#) and
how it affects council services

Find out the latest [government guidance](#)