



Further to the last Overseas Parent Update, and recent government announcements, this Update formalises and sets out in more detail our provision for overseas pupils for the rest of this term and for the Easter holiday.

The final two weeks of the Lent Term

Monday 8 March to Friday 19 March

The government has announced the full return to school of all pupils in English schools from Monday 8 March, with schools allowed to run a staged return over the course of that week.

Should you wish to send your child back to Mount Kelly for the final fortnight of term, and are able to do so, we would be delighted to see them back, though as you will be aware, anyone returning to the UK from abroad will be required to spend a minimum of five days in quarantine, plus two days awaiting test results.

Pupils returning to Mount Kelly for the final fortnight of term must therefore arrive in the UK between 16:00 on Saturday 6 and 20:00 on Monday 8 March, and will go straight into quarantine. The school cannot assure quarantine provision for pupils who arrive outside these times, and you would therefore have to make your own arrangements in this regard. You would also be charged £250, to cover the cost of the PCR COVID test, which is necessary for anyone who wishes to leave quarantine at the end of the fifth day, instead of serving the full ten-day quarantine period.

Given all this, you may feel that it is simply not worth sending your son or daughter back to Mount Kelly for such a short period of time, particularly given that they will spend the first week in quarantine, and the expense of the test on the fifth day; we would understand entirely if this was the case.

In order that our overseas pupils are still able to continue their studies from wherever they are in the world, our teaching timetable will therefore remain largely unchanged, and Microsoft Teams will remain the principal teaching medium – though we appreciate that this will be a little peculiar for those pupils who are actually in the classroom.

Though public pools will remain closed for the time-being, it has been confirmed that we may resume swim training for our pupils from Monday 8 March. This is good news for all our swimmers, but particularly those preparing for the British Championships/Olympic Trials, and this may incline the parents of pupils on the Performance Swim Programme to send their children back before the end of term.

Though we can be flexible, should you wish to send your child back to Mount Kelly for the final fortnight of term please make every effort to confirm your intentions by 18:00 on **Monday 1 March**, using this [link](#).

Easter Holiday Overseas Pupils Camp

Friday 19 March to Monday 12 April

An Easter Holiday Camp will be run at the Prep for the duration of the holiday (from Friday 19 March to Monday 12 April), for international boarders who are currently with us and are simply unable to get home at the end of term, or who are unable to get home without serving a long and expensive period in quarantine, either in their home country or in the UK on their return for the Summer Term.

Due to ongoing restrictions on movement the camp will be run as a single, three-week camp, for which the cost will be £1,500.

Though we can be flexible, should you wish to book your son or daughter onto the Easter Holiday Camp please make every effort to confirm your intentions by 18:00 on Friday 5 March, using this [link](#).

Easter Holiday Swim Training Camp

Friday 19 March to Monday 12 April

In order to support our swimmers whilst public pools remain closed, we are very pleased to confirm that we will be offering a three-week Easter Holiday Swim Training Camp, with boarding swimmers accommodated in the Houses at the College. A separate and bespoke training programme has been designed for those preparing for the British Championships/Olympic Trials, whilst all other swimmers will enjoy a full programme of return-to-the-water training. There will also be periods of supervised study and academic support for pupils in Year 11 and the Upper Sixth, as they prepare for the summer examinations.

As with the Easter Camp for Overseas Pupils, quarantine facilities will be available for overseas swimmers who return to Mount Kelly for the Easter Holiday Swim Training Camp. Pupils requiring quarantine during the first week of the Training Camp must arrive in the UK between 8:00 on Saturday 20 and midday on Monday 22 March (the first weekend of the Easter holiday), and will be accommodated in a separate building at the College. Quarantine provision cannot be assured for pupils who arrive outside these times, and you may have to make your own arrangements in this regard. You will appreciate that pupils in quarantine will not be able to train during this period.

Due to ongoing restrictions on movement, the training camp will be run as a single, three-week camp, for which the cost will be £1,500. An additional charge of £250 will be made for those pupils who require quarantine for the first week of the camp, to cover the cost of the PCR COVID test on their fifth day in quarantine, which will enable them to be released from quarantine then, rather than after the full ten days.

Though we can be flexible, should you wish to book your son or daughter onto the Easter Holiday Swim Training Camp please make every effort to confirm your intentions by 18:00 on **Friday 5 March**, using this [link](#).

The Swimming Performance Centre will very shortly be publishing further details of the Easter Holiday Swim Training Camp, in which a link to the same online proforma will appear – you need only complete the proforma once.

Pre-Summer Term Quarantine Camp

Saturday 3 to Monday 12 April

A Quarantine Camp will be run at Moorland Hall over the course of the final week of the Easter holiday. This will enable overseas pupils to return to the UK a week prior to the start of term and complete the requisite period of time in quarantine before re-joining their boarding houses on the evening of Monday 12 April. The cost of the Quarantine Camp will be £750, which includes the cost of testing on the fifth day of quarantine.

This may be of particular interest to pupils in Year 11 and the Upper Sixth, who we expect to sit the first of two rounds of examinations very early in the Summer Term.

Pupils who require quarantine must arrive in the UK between 8:00 on Saturday 3 and midday on Monday 5 April. This is the Easter weekend, and the penultimate weekend of the Easter holiday. Quarantine provision cannot be made for pupils who arrive outside these times, and you may have to make your own arrangements in this regard, nor are we able to provide quarantine facilities during term-time.

Though we can be flexible, should you wish to book your son or daughter onto the Quarantine Camp, please make every effort to confirm your intentions by 18:00 on **Friday 19 March**, using this [link](#).

Final comments

Whatever your plans are for your children, please use the established online form to keep Mrs Bersey abreast of your travel requirements. The form can be accessed using this [link](#). Mrs Bersey is likely to have a busy few weeks ahead of her, so do please do all that you can to communicate your travel plans early and in detail.

Please note that the School's quarantine service is not available to pupils travelling from countries on the UK government's so-called Red List. These are countries experiencing high levels of infection with new variants of COVID-19, and pupils returning to the UK from these countries must serve their period of quarantine in a government-approved facility. The Red List can be found [here](#).

As always, we have your child's best interests at heart, and remain committed to doing all we can to support our overseas families, for whom this is a particularly trying time. All the camps that we have run thus far have been happy and successful, and as we move into what we hope will be a glorious English spring, we have every confidence that should you need or wish to leave your children with us, they will be happy, safe, and well looked-after, in a beautiful part of the world, by professional staff who know them well.

One important final point for the parents of pupils currently staying with guardians or host families, or who may do so in the future, is that if your child is under sixteen and stays with their guardian or host family for more than 28 days the terms of your child's Student Visa require us to report this as a private fostering arrangement.

We will therefore require written notification from you, informing us of the exact dates that your child will be staying with their guardian or host family. You should contact your son or daughter's Housemaster/Housemistress.

The situation remains extremely uncertain, of course, and as you know, things have a habit of changing at quite short-notice, so we must make clear that this letter sets out the School's current position. In the meantime, we hope this gives you the necessary reassurance that you need at this difficult time.

Please do not hesitate to contact either your son/daughter's Housemaster or Housemistress, or Mr Reid, the Principal Deputy Head (ReidA@mountkelly.com), should you wish to discuss your particular circumstances, and how we might help.