



Introduction

We hope this final Parent Update for 2021 finds all our families well, and that Christmas has brought some much-needed cheer, though our thoughts are particularly with those overseas families who were not able to have their children home with them for Christmas.

The New Year appears to offer little hope that COVID will vanish from our lives, but as has been the case since March 2020, Mount Kelly is putting its best foot forwards, and the school calendar looks almost as full and busy as it ever did, with a packed programme of sport, swimming, performing arts, outdoor education and adventure – as well, of course, as our unwavering focus on teaching and learning.

Return-to-school testing for pupils in Years 7 and above

As explained in the last Parent Update (Fri 3 Dec), in order to protect the school community, and considering that our pupils have been scattered hither and yon for the festive season and will have socialised widely, we will be LFD testing all pupils in Year 7 and above on their return to school.

This is a sensible and proportionate measure, but may require parents of boarders to adjust their plans for bringing their children back to school on the afternoon and evening of Sunday 9 January, and may also impact on the parents of day pupils who will be bringing their children to school on the morning of Monday 10 January.

The testing schedule for boarders and day pupils in Year 7 and upwards is set out at Appendix A to this Update.

School Calendar

As we edge our way back towards normality we are considering publishing the School Calendar once again in hard-copy, though continued uncertainty inclines us against the professionally-printed calendar that has long been a staple of the school year. We are, however, happy to offer school-produced, hard-copy calendars to any parents who may find it helpful to have one actually in their hands – rather than peering myopically at the online version on their phones.

If you would like a hard-copy of the School Calendar, please complete the proforma using this [link](#) by close of play on Friday 14 January, and one will either be sent to you in the post, or available at Prep or College Reception.

This comes with all good wishes for the New Year and for fair winds and calmer waters in 2022.

Start-of-term testing schedule for all pupils in Years 7 and above

All Boarders – College & Prep		
Return Date	Return Window	Report To
Sunday 9 January	14:00 – 18:00	Chapel at the College
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boarders are not to return to school outside the hours indicated above.• On arrival at school, they must report direct to Chapel (at the College), and register for testing.• Boarders are not to report to or enter their boarding houses until they have received the result of their test.• Testing will take place in Big School.• Boarders returning by taxi, minibus or coach may leave their bags in the main block classrooms.• Parents who bring their children back to school by car must either wait in their cars in the main car park, or may go into town, until the result of their child’s test is known.• Any boarder who receives a negative test result may collect their belongings, and report to their boarding house.• Any boarder who has been brought to school by their parents, and who receives a positive test result, must be taken home immediately.• Any boarder who has returned to school by taxi, minibus or coach, and who tests positive, will collect their belongings and then be moved immediately into isolation accommodation at Prep or College.		

Day pupils in Years 9 to Upper Sixth

Return Date	Return Window	Year Group	Report To
Monday 10 January	8:15 – 9:00	Year 9 (35)	M1 & M10
		Year 10 (44)	Chapel
		Year 11 (24)	M3 & M4
	10:00 – 11:00	Lower Sixth (25)	Chapel
		Upper Sixth (28)	

- Parents of day pupils are asked to make best efforts to ensure their children arrive at school within the hours indicated above, and certainly no later than the end time.
- Those pupils who are unable to delay their arrival at school, perhaps on account of taking the school bus, will be held separately until their testing window opens.
- On arrival at school, they must report direct to the location indicated above, and register for testing.
- Pupils are **not** to go to their day houses or disperse around school until they have received the result of their test.
- Testing will take place in Big School.
- Parents who bring their children to school by car may wait in their cars in the main car park, or may go into town, until the result of their child's test is known.
- If parents are unable to wait, perhaps on account of work pressures, they must be contactable, and able to return to school at short notice to collect their child, should their child's test result be positive.
- Pupils who receive a negative test result may make their way to their Houses.
- Lessons for pupils in Years 9 – 11 will commence with period 2 at 9:40.
- Lessons for pupils in the Sixth Form will commence with period 4A at 11:40.
- Pupils who receive a positive test result must be taken home immediately.
- Any pupil who has not been accompanied to school by a parent or other adult, perhaps on account of having driven themselves or taken the school bus, and who tests positive, will be moved immediately into isolation, and their parents will be required to collect them as soon as possible.

Day pupils in Years 7 & 8

Return Date	Return Window	Year Group	Report To
Monday 10 January	8:15 – 9:00	Year 7 (53)	Wortham Hall
	9:30 – 10:30	Year 8 (36)	

- Day pupils in Years 7 & 8 must not return to school outside the hours indicated.
- On arrival at school, they must report direct to the Wortham Hall, and register for testing.
- Those pupils who are unable to delay their arrival at school, perhaps on account of taking the school bus, will be held separately until their testing window opens.
- Pupils are **not** to go into any other building until they have received the result of their test.
- Testing will take place in the Music Room.
- Parents who bring their children to school by car may wait in their cars in the parent car park, or may go into town, until the result of their child's test is known.
- If parents are unable to wait, perhaps on account of work pressures, they must be able to return to school at short notice to collect their child, should their child's test result be positive.
- Pupils who receive a negative test result may make their way to their form rooms.
- Lessons for pupils in Year 7 will commence with period 2, at 9:40.
- Lessons for pupils in Year 8 will commence with period 3, at 10:55.
- Pupils who receive a positive test result must be taken home immediately.
- Any pupil who has not been accompanied to school by a parent or other adult, perhaps on account of having taken the school bus, and who tests positive, will be moved immediately into the isolation room, and their parents will be required to collect them as soon as possible.