



Tuesday 11th January 2022

Dear Parent /Carer,

I wanted to write and thank you for the continued support in ensuring Kenton School and the wider community are working together to reduce the impact of Covid on learning.

With your support we were able to complete mass testing on the students last week, no mean feat when we have more than 1850 students. We were able to do this and ensure all students were learning by Thursday afternoon, far more quickly than the government guidance of taking a full week to mass test. Again, this would not have been possible without your support.

As you know the DFE made further guidance on the wearing of mask inside the classroom. Once again, with your support the students have stepped up to this challenge and have worn masks (or medically exempt lanyards where appropriate) in all inside spaces that now includes classrooms. Our young people really are great examples of resilience and by conforming with the latest guidance is also an indication of how seriously the students at Kenton School take their learning. Students, parents, and staff all working together to ensure we reduce any lost learning caused by COVID.

I have also enclosed the letter outlining the monitoring visit undertaking by OFSTED. I won't elaborate on the letter other than to urge you to read the letter. **It is an exceptional read and is clearly stating the school is on the way to the overall Good plus judgement.** A judgement that is another example of students, parents, and staff working together to ensure Kenton School is a beacon of excellence for our wonderful community.

I wrote to you before the holidays to outline the relaunch of the Consequence system and the clear focus on both SHAPE and SLANT in every lesson. There have been marked improvements in behaviour and attitudes by heightening supervision around school. We are more determined than ever to replicate these behavioural improvements inside the classroom and we have recently audited attitudes to learning and reviewed our behaviour for learning policy. Highly effective explicit teaching, retrieval tasks and opportunities for reading underpin the learning experience at Kenton School and for this to take place effectively we have very high expectations of in-class behaviour. The following outlines our expectations as of January 2022.

Staff use the Kenton Learning Cycle (KLC) to inform planning and deliver lessons that allows for a routine-based learning experience. We expect students to come to school prepared to learn and to engage with their learning positively and respectfully. Teachers have very high expectations of their students, which we think is captured with the acronyms SLANT and SHAPE:

Students must use **SLANT** whenever the teacher asks for it.

Students must use **SHAPE** whenever they ask or answer a question.

Students use SLANT in order to ensure they are focused on their learning:

S = Sit up straight: Students are taught to be attentive, focussed and respectful in lessons.

L = Listen carefully: Students give their teachers 100% undivided attention in lessons.

A = Ask & Answer: Students are taught to be active participants in lessons and to ask & answer questions.

N = Never interrupt: Students are taught to be patient and considerate.

T = Track the teacher: Students are taught to look where directed by their teacher.

Students use SHAPE in order to ensure they are confident and clear in all their interactions:

S = Sentences: Students are taught to reply in full sentences and "say it better".

H = Hands: Students are taught not to cover their faces when talking.

A = Articulate: Students are taught to speak clearly and to avoid mumbling.

P = Projection: Students are taught to project their voices so their responses are clearly audible.

E = Eyes; Students are taught to make confident and *appropriate* eye contact when conversing.

Kenton School is committed to keeping all children safe

This letter can be supplied in large print, as an audio recording or in a language other than English. Please contact Ms G Taylor, PA to the Principal to arrange an alternative version.

We expect all members of our Kenton community to address each other politely and to show good manners, addressing staff as Sir or Miss, saying thank you, excuse me, please, smiling and replying when we greet each other.

Students who adhere to SLANT and SHAPE will be praised, those not meeting expectations will receive consequence points as per our regular behaviour policy, based on our Praise and Consequence system which we aim to use on a 5:1 positive ratio. Students not complying with SHAPE & SLANT will be given a consequence (negative point). C1, C2, C3 gives students three warning before a C4 means they are removed from the lesson to protect the learning of others.

Car Parking - We have received numerous complaints from local residents regarding illegal and dangerous parking. Parents are choosing to park at junctions, park on pavements, park across residents' driveways and double park on roads. This is both illegal and will increase the risk of a road traffic accident. Blocking the paths with cars pushes pedestrians, including Kenton students, on to the roads.

We would prefer that your child walked, cycled, or took a public bus to school, which supports the Newcastle Council vision to make the city green. If you must use a car as a last resort to drop off your child please follow the one-way system in the car park and leave promptly having dropped your child off.

Contacts - Should you have any concerns regarding behaviour, attendance and other welfare issues please contact the Year Leader or your child's Form Tutor in the first instance.

Year Leaders and staff are unable to take phone calls during the school day as they are on the corridors with students but will return calls as soon as they can. Alternatively, you can contact Year Leaders via e-mail for a faster response as they are able to access their e-mails while on the corridors. Please do not ring reception at these times but e-mail:

Year 7	Mr Catherall – Garry.Catherall@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk / Ms Selby – Amy.Selby@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 8	Mr Allan - Matthew.Allan@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk / Mrs Gardner – Julianne.Gardner@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 9	Mrs Rutherford - Jannene.Rutherford@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk / Mr Antony - Paul.Antony@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 10	Mrs Angus - Alison.Angus@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk / Ms Driver – Kelly.Driver@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 11	Mr Bouleau - Andre.Bouleau@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk / Mrs Hunter - Jocelyn.Hunter@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 12/13	Miss Philson – Lisa.Philson@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk

If you have concerns about **any aspect** of learning please email the point of contact below.

Year 7: Sarah.Rice@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 Year 8 & Year 10: James.Robinson@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 Year 9 & Year 11: Ross.Scherer@kenton.newcastle.sch.uk
 P16: Stephen.Ord@Kenton.newcastle.sch.uk

Yours sincerely



Sarah Holmes-Carne
Principal

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