

27th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your family are keeping safe and well. On Friday, Term 5 ends and students and staff will get a well-deserved break next week.

As we informed you earlier in the term, we will be closing earlier on Friday. This is to allow staff some time to complete the very important administrative tasks required as part of the process for awarding GCSE grades to Year 11. The arrangements for Friday are as follows:

Year 7 and 8 Students

Those catching a college bus will be dismissed at 12.05 pm. The 509 bus service will operate as normal; the other bus services will be combined into one service which will also depart at 12.10 pm. Please note that the journey time for some students may be longer as it will be necessary to stop at more drop off points.

Those students not catching a college bus will be dismissed at 12 noon.

Year 9, 10 and 11 Students

Students who do not catch a college bus will be dismissed at 12 noon. Students who require the college bus service will be asked to remain in college and will be supervised until 12.30 pm when a TM bus will arrive. Only students who have remained in college will be able to use this service. Again this journey may take longer for some students as it will be necessary to stop at more drop off points.

Twice weekly home testing should continue on both Sundays and Wednesday during the half term break. Home testing is a critical part of our strategy to keep everyone safe during the pandemic and I would ask all families to continue to test and to continue to report the results via this form <https://forms.office.com/r/fDrPKZaSuj> AND to the NHS via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Thank you again for your cooperation with this.

Term 6 will begin at 8.40 am on Monday 7th June. We will have the same covid control measures in place initially. As you will see in the end of term letter from Wesley Davies (Two Counties Trust CEO), schools will move to a position from Monday 14th June where the use of face coverings will no longer be requested in classrooms. We will continue to request that they are used in other indoor communal areas and on college buses.

At the time of writing the government expects to be able to ease restrictions further in the coming weeks. If this goes to plan we hope to be able to organise some of the traditional end of year events

our students have enjoyed over the years. This includes our annual sports day and possibly some educational visits.

Year 11 students are returning to college after half term but will not be expected to attend from Monday 14th June. We will be sorry to see them leave and will make sure that they get a good send off. From Monday 14th June we will be able to reorganise the system of bubbles and zones we have in place while continuing to be a covid secure site. This will enable us to provide more access to some of our specialist facilities to students, particularly those in Years 9 and 10. We will also be able to give Year 7 students more opportunities to get some fresh air and (hopefully) sunshine at break and lunchtime. I will write to you early in Term 6 with more information about this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of the college during what continue to be challenging times and to wish students and staff a well-deserved and enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "I. Wingfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish under the name.

Ian Wingfield
Headteacher