

Early Closure Letter

April 2021



4th May 2021

Dear Families

I would like to thank you for all you have done to ensure the full return to schools has been a success across all our nine schools. Much of my time to date has been taken up with navigating our way through the pandemic ensuring student and staff safety. I know that my leadership teams have really appreciated all of your understanding and support in these unusual times.

With the cancellation of formal examinations this year, we have had to develop policies and procedures to support the exam boards in the awarding of grades for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. I want to wish them the very best of luck over the next few weeks as they complete various assessments to finish their portfolio of work that will be used to determine the final grade they will receive in August. In order to ensure that student's portfolios go through robust moderation procedures, our schools will close slightly earlier on Friday 28th May. This will allow subject teams to complete a review of the students work. It will also allow us to maximise the current term for teaching and assessment which will help our students produce their best work possible. Details are below about the arrangements for Springwell Community College.

- The college will close to students at 12:30pm on Friday 28th May
- Students will attend their normal timetabled lessons for periods 1, 2 and 3
- Morning break will be extended by 15 minutes, with food and drink available to purchase
- More details will follow regarding transport arrangements for students who travel by bus.

Although we have been really busy with the pandemic, we have been focussed on our improvement journey across The Two Counties Trust and I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some important developments. We have revisited and streamlined our mission and values. We have agreed that across all our schools we are 100% committed to providing our students with opportunities and experiences to enhance their life choices, making a positive contribution to the world we share. This will require us to continue to raise the attainment of our students along with ensuring they have experiences such as visits and trips. All our schools are working collectively on developing student's literacy skills as we know these skills aid learning across the curriculum. Teachers in all our schools will be providing students with recommendations for books to read and developing Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary in all subjects for example. We have also been working hard to update our websites. The new websites will be rolled out over the coming weeks and these will be more mobile device friendly than our current websites. We hope you like the refresh and watch out for new photos and videos clips.

As we return to more usual practices, I will be spending more time in schools getting to know our students and staff. I am fully committed to serving schools so they in turn can serve you and your child. We know that achieving our best does not come easy, it is the product of striving for excellence and giving 100% effort.

Yours faithfully

Wesley Davies
CEO