

16 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware we have had a number of positive Covid-19 cases in recent days. At the time of writing we have been informed of nine cases in total, including seven in Year 7, one in Year 8 and one in Year 9.

As a consequence, all Year 7 students have been asked to stay at home and to access live lessons with their teachers over Microsoft Teams. Some students in Year 8 have been asked to self-isolate due to having been in close contact with the student who has tested positive. These students along with any other students in Year 8 to Year 10 who have been identified to self-isolate, will access learning materials available on Teams. Further details on our remote learning provision is available here: [Remote Learning - Springwell Community College \(ttct.co.uk\)](https://ttct.co.uk). The Year 9 student was not in college during the infectious period so no close contacts have been identified.

Following advice from Public Health England we are asking all students to take a lateral flow test every day until Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June and that parents and carers record the results of these on the college form <https://forms.office.com/r/fDrPKZaSuj> and to the NHS <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

In my letter to Parents and Carers at the end of Term 5, I informed you of our plan to allow students to remove face coverings in classrooms if they wish to. As a result of the current outbreak, we have decided to delay that change and we are currently continuing to ask that face coverings are worn in classrooms. We will review this again in two weeks' time.

In the same letter I said I would write to you with more details about some changes we have introduced to make use of the space vacated by Year 11 students leaving us. Here is a summary of the changes:

**Year 7** students now have a large outside space to use during break and lunchtime as well as having exclusive use of the dining room.

**Year 8** students are no longer required to move between Discover, Energise and Perform pods for lessons. Instead they are based in either Discover or Inspire classrooms for their lessons.

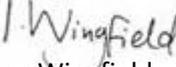
**Year 9** students no longer have lessons in the hall or the learning resource centre and will instead be based in one area of the site for all of their classroom-based lessons. They will also have access to specialist facilities for art, dance and drama.

**Year 10** students will move to their own pod, Create. They will have access to their own catering facilities in the pod. They will no longer have to move to Energise to access handwashing and toilet facilities. Year 10 students will have access to specialist facilities for art, design & technology, hospitality & catering, music, dance and science. At break and lunchtime they will have access to an outside area adjacent to their pod.

I realise that some families will be concerned about the current situation. I would like to assure you that we continue to implement a wide range of measures to keep students safe and that the college continues to be recognised as a Covid secure site. Students are following the measures exceptionally well and are showing a very mature attitude towards them. Please note we are unable to authorise any Covid related absences that have not been identified by the college or NHS, and work for those students cannot be provided.

Thank you again for your continued and much appreciated support of the college during what are very challenging times for us all.

Yours faithfully

  
Ian Wingfield  
Headteacher