

15 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of the academic year, I write with information about the end of term and the start of the new year in September. I am sorry that it is another long letter; there is a lot of information to share with you again.

Arrangements for the end of term

Term ends on Wednesday 21st July at 12 noon. The bus companies have been informed of this early finish time and a normal service will be available. This day will be a non-uniform day with students asked to make a donation of £1 to White Ribbon UK (a charity to end male violence against women) if they wish to take part.

On Tuesday 20th July we are delighted to have found ways to hold our annual sports day in a Covid safe manner. Students should attend in their PE kit and bring water and, if the long-term weather forecast at the time of writing is correct, sun lotion.

The start of term and on-site asymptomatic testing

As you may have heard, we have been asked by the Government to offer students two on site Covid-19 tests at the beginning of next term. We need to ask you to complete a new consent form for these tests. Please complete the form here: <https://forms.office.com/r/Bu6gTgP8fr>

In order to provide this, it will be necessary to stagger the return to college. The arrangements for this are as follows (please note we have used the year group they will be in from September, not their current one):

Year 7: Should attend college from 8.40am on Thursday 2nd September. They will receive their first test during the day.

Year 11: Should attend college from Friday 3rd September. They will need to be available for testing from Thursday 2nd September.

Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 should be available for testing from Friday 3rd September and will be returning to college the following week. We will write to you again in August with more details and we expect all students to be back in college by Wednesday 8th September at the latest.

Students will receive their second tests once they have returned to college. After this they will return to weekly testing at home.

From September, if a student tests positive they will self-isolate as per the current arrangements. Schools and Colleges will no longer undertake contact tracing. The NHS Test and Trace service will make contact with 'close contacts' and the advice will be that attendance at college should continue

but daily lateral flow tests must be undertaken. This will reduce the need for large numbers of students to self-isolate.

How learning will be organised from September

In line with Government guidance we will remove the bubble system from September. This will mean students will be able to access all areas of the college for their lessons. Students will also be able to access all catering outlets. We will continue to ask students to line up outside the gates in the morning as this allows for an orderly and purposeful start to the day.

Face coverings

From September we will not ask students to wear a face covering. We will however, support any student who wishes to wear one.

Uniform

Another change from September is that students will be able to access the PE changing rooms. This means they should wear full college uniform every day and bring their PE kit in their bag on PE days to change in to. The vast majority of parents/carers are aware of our high expectations of uniform in non Covid-19 times and this is what we will return to from September. As a reminder full college uniform means:

- White shirt
- College tie
- College blazer
- Approved uniform trousers or skirt
- Black socks
- Black shoes

Further detail on college uniform and PE kit requirements is available on our website:

[Uniform - Springwell Community College \(ttct.co.uk\)](https://www.ttct.co.uk/uniform)

Summer holiday work

Students will be set a homework task in all of their subjects to complete over the summer. Teachers are currently putting these onto Go4Schools and they will all be there by the end of term. Completing this work will ensure students are ready to make a great start to the next academic year. Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 are starting term later than originally planned so they might choose to do this work in the first few days of September.

Staffing changes for September

At the end of term we will be saying goodbye to a number of colleagues.

Mrs Falconer began teaching science at Springwell in 1993 and has decided it is time to hang up her lab coat for the last time. We wish you a very happy retirement Mrs Falconer and thank you for your 28 years of excellent service to Springwell and to this community!

Mr Jacques takes up his new post of Assistant Principal in another Derbyshire secondary school in September. He has made a huge contribution to the performing arts, the personal development curriculum and to our achievement programme over his 18 years at Springwell. Many congratulations on your promotion Mr Jacques and good luck in your new post!

Mrs Millington left us recently having worked as a Teaching Assistant at Springwell since 2010. She has supported a number of children to success with her expertise, skill and patience. We send you our best wishes Mrs Millington!

Also leaving us are Miss Lee, who has taught Religious Education at Springwell for the last 3 years and Miss Jackson-Miller from the maths faculty.

While it is always sad to see colleagues moving on, we are excited to welcome Miss Kelly (English), Miss Townend (humanities) and Miss Spencer (maths) to our staff from September.

Finally

It has been quite a year hasn't it? I would like to thank you all for your support and your patience over the year. Many of you have taken time out of your busy lives to send kind wishes and thanks to our staff in recognition of what they have done to support the students. These messages have kept us going, thank you! Your children have shown a mature, unselfish, community spirited approach to the measures we have had to put in place and great resilience through very testing times. They are a credit to you. I wish you all a relaxing, enjoyable and very well-earned summer break.

Yours faithfully

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

Ian Wingfield
Headteacher