



# CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**Principal:** Mrs Wendy Ainsworth



## REF: Partial College Re-Opening

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, many thanks for your support and positive response to a difficult situation where we were forced to be reactive and make a very quick decision. I hope that your children have been well catered for by their teachers and lessons have gone well. We encountered a particular set of circumstances this week, where some staff needed to be off to be at home with their own children, after bubbles in other schools were sent home. We then had some non COVID illness absence and our positive cases in College compounded an already tricky situation and we were left in a position on Sunday where we simply did not have sufficient staff in school to open safely.

We have reviewed our position over the last two days, particularly with regards to staffing levels and our ability to effectively safeguard. We are in a position to re-open to a smaller number of year groups and this will be in effect until close of day Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

It is never easy deciding on which year groups can be present in College and a number of factors influence the decision;

- The size of the Year group
- Their ability to work independently at home
- Their likelihood in participating positively in virtual live lessons
- Their ability to remain at home unsupervised if parents/carers are at work

With these factors in mind, I have made the decision to ask Year 12 and Year 13 to remain at home until Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. I apologise wholeheartedly to the parents/carers of and students within this cohort – regrettably, I simply don't have the staff to accommodate more students at this time. All Post 16 students will receive distance learning, which will continue to incorporate live lessons at specified times. At other times, they will be expected to work independently on tasks set by staff, as Post 16 teachers will very occasionally be required to help cover some Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 lessons. I understand that student anxiety around mock exams will no doubt be enhanced by this and to this end, we are hosting a virtual parent and student information evening for Year 13 so that you are fully informed of the mock examination process and our planning for Summer examinations. This will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm. The zoom link will be sent out separately.

We will open to Years 7 to 11 on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November. For these students, College will function as normal and buses will be back in service. Post 16 can attend from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November.



Thank you once again for your support. It is always greatly appreciated. As always, continue to stay safe, happy and well

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. Ainsworth', written in dark ink.

Wendy Ainsworth  
Principal