

The Callington Voice

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Learning together, even when we're apart!

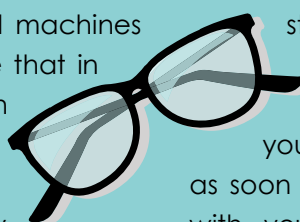
I do hope that you are all well and able to enjoy quality time together as families during these difficult few months. Thank you so much for your response to our most recent survey, I hope that you feel as I do, that the voice of you and your child are fundamental in shaping and developing our practice.

Following the Government announcement, we now know that our College won't be open to all children until at least Monday 8 March. It is why we have been absolutely committed to working out what works in our virtual lesson offer and what measures prevent access. We have at every step, sought to consult on need and thus far have provided 96 laptops and a number of 4G receivers to our families. We have researched best and most effective practice and have worked to remedy children having a full screen, rather than a mobile phone screen to work from. We have repurposed donated machines and used the funding allocated to ensure that in the first instance, children can access their lessons.

I am additionally really pleased with the response to our virtual offer. I am so proud of our teaching and support staff who have worked tirelessly not just to put virtual lessons on, but also their commitment to sourcing new platforms that enable dynamic interactions and meaningful assessment opportunities.

Our lessons are not solely about the delivery of material – they are navigated and attuned to the responses gathered from the tools that are being used. Whilst the children are not in College, it is wonderful to see the tutor sessions resumed also with children having the opportunity to still see and talk to their peers. It is with real pleasure that I have watched some of these interactions from within our EduCare rooms. The role of the tutor is especially pertinent now and that relationship is a fundamental aspect of our pastoral care.

The consultation around examinations and awarding of student grades is due for completion today. We are in no doubt, how important this information is to you and students within Post-16 and Year 11 and as soon as we have this information, we will share it with you. Many of our students have expressed concern around this (including those students in Year 10), rest assured, we will do everything we can to ensure no child is disadvantaged and they receive the support they need. We will shortly be commencing a tuition program that will run alongside the curriculum and we will deploy these tutors to ensure that those children that need additional



support will receive it. We have also been using our attendance and 'Show My Homework' data to ensure we are reaching out to any families that may need additional support in accessing their lessons and the Heads of Year and pastoral staff are reaching out to families also, to offer vital pastoral support as needed.

As the days get a little longer and brighter and we get a little closer to more people being vaccinated and a greater feeling of safety, my biggest hope is that our children will return to College, with no detriment to their academic, physical and mental well-being. I believe we have the systems in place to support this but if you do need support in any way, please do get in touch with us. There are a number of avenues to support this, not least of which, is your child's tutor and Head of Year.

Finally, there will no doubt be a number of our young people running short on exercise book space or needing other materials from College. We will be sending out a form in the next few days so that you can advise us of any materials needed. On Friday 12 February, we will be offering a 'drive through' resource pick up, so that you can collect any materials needed safely. These will quite literally be passed through your driver window. Look out for further details of this soon. Take care, stay safe and well and look after one another. **Mrs Wendy Ainsworth**



Caitlin in 8AMR has been awarded Grade 3 Trinity Rock & Pop Singing; she passed with MERIT. An enormous congratulations from us all in the Music Department for such a huge achievement. **Mr A Lane**

Lateral Flow Device Testing

Our LFD (lateral flow test) centre has now been fully operational for just over a week, with all staff in attendance having opportunity to test, as well as those children in EduCare being tested (with parental consent) once per week. This is providing significant reassurance and I owe a debt of gratitude to all the staff members who volunteered to support this and completed the training. Here are two of our staff; Sue Davis Butler and Michele Dustan in their PPE ready to commence testing.



It is expected that when all children return to the College that they will have two LFD tests, 5 days apart to confirm that they are not an asymptomatic carrier of the disease. Our volunteer staff have been wonderful with the small sample of children we have within College at both allaying their initial fears and helping them to complete the tests (it is self-administered). I thought it would be useful for all of our children to share what our testing facility looks like.

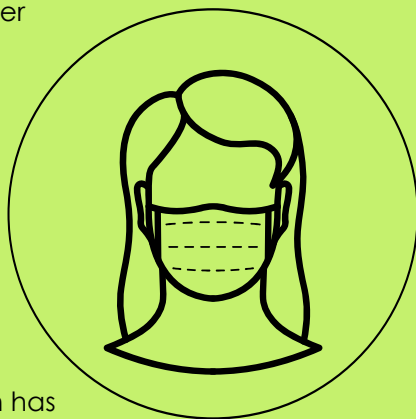


1. Our testing site is the Sports Hall. It has clear one way, entry and exit signage and the booths are all private, so that children cannot see one another takes their tests. The registration desk is seen here, together with the waiting area. The panels all enable privacy.



2. Once registered, the children will be called one at a time by the test assistant and advised to enter a booth. You will note that the booths contain a visual reference, as well as the swab, tissues, sanitiser and other materials.

You may also be able to detect the plastic screen in front of the booth, which protects the individual processing the test, and ensures the child can communicate with an adult if they need support. The screen has a small window (marked by the tape),



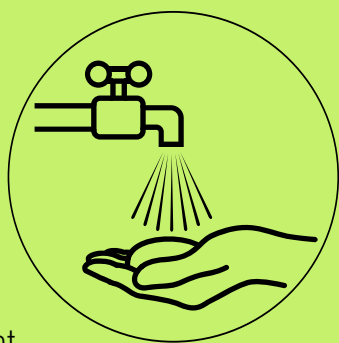
which the swab and test kit are passed through on its completion. In line with the protocol, the children then take a cleaning wipe and wipe down the table and chair (cleaning staff are also permanently in operation), the booth is then checked over by the test assistance in readiness for the next sitting.

3. We have a total of five booths that can be occupied at any one time and each booth is clearly labelled to show whether it is in use or not.

4. Once the test is complete and is being handled by our processing staff, children then take a seat in our waiting area for their result.

5. Results are processed for 30 minutes and on the receipt of the result, the child is advised and on a negative return, returns to class as normal. Should a positive result be received, a staff member will discreetly advise the child and they will be escorted to our quarantine area to await collection. All parents/carers will be advised of the result via an email alert from NHS.

6. As we get closer to a return, we will make a video of this process to help students understand it further. For now though, I am happy to report that we have a fully compliant, fully safe and sterile environment to facilitate this process.



FIND US ONLINE | WWW.CALLINGTONCC.NET

Do you have any good news stories that you would like to share?

Contact us via e-mail

thevoice@callingtoncc.net



Remote Education Survey

Firstly, thank you for your support over recent weeks. We know that this a challenging time for parents/carers but you really are doing a great job by giving your child/children a quiet place to work, reducing distractions and providing the encouragement they need.

We have received a large number of 'thank-you' emails from parents/carers in recent weeks, and this has meant a great deal to us, but we are also keen to improve our remote education offer further. We really appreciate all of the responses to the recent survey regarding remote education. We will use all feedback to refine our provision further. Please see the results and our actions to some of your comments below.

My child has an area at home where they can focus on school work.

Yes

96%

No

4%

We will continue to work with families to support remote education provision. Please do contact the College if you would like to explore the possibility of an EduCare placement.

My child has access to a laptop, computer or tablet at home to do school work.

Yes

97.4%

No

2.6%

DfE laptops were available to disadvantaged children in Years 7 to 11 who do not have access to a device and whose face-to-face education is disrupted. Examples include; students with no digital devices in their household; whose only available device is a smartphone; with a single device in their household that's being shared with more than one other family member. 112 students have been impacted by the distribution of College laptops (12% of all students at the College). We will continue to work with families to remove any barriers to accessing remote education. Please do contact ccampbell@callingtoncc.net for any enquiries in this matter.

I rate my child's level of engagement in remote learning as:

Very little engagement

1

5.7%

2

8.4%

3

41%

4

44.9%

Excellent levels of engagement

We are so proud of how well students are engaging with remote education. We are also immensely proud of our colleagues whose move to remote education has forced us to adopt a new way of working with very little lead in time or preparation. Colleagues have embraced learning new skills which they have done with pace and dedication. The feedback from parents means so much to us and we are so pleased that whilst this is far from an ideal situation that the efforts of colleagues are valued by our community.



Our local community champion

The team at Tesco have come up trumps again in supporting us in our endeavours to support our families.

As with the last lockdown, many of our families entitled to pupil premium funding have been in receipt of a weekly £15 store voucher. Whilst this is great, it doesn't support in the same way, some of our families who might have difficulty leaving their homes to spend the voucher. Tesco are once again making up food hampers for these families, so that they can be delivered to the doorstep of their homes. I met with Tammy recently, who helps put the hampers together and she explained how much they enjoyed coming up with the foods that go in them. She told me how this week's hamper contained stewing meat, casserole vegetables and dumpling mix so a hearty stew could be made one evening. Each week, the hampers contain a different variety of food items as well as store cupboard staples and fruit and vegetables and this provides us with great comfort, knowing our families are not going hungry.



On Monday afternoon, I received an excited call from Stuart Wood, the manager of the store. "I've got something great for you" is his introduction! Hopefully you are aware already of our commitment to awarding good behaviours in the College and celebrating these with subject praise postcards and magic moments. The children in receipt of magic moments are often given a sweet as a small token. We now have plentiful sweets that will be sent in the post with the magic moment for any child who is nominated by their teachers. We have received from Tesco a donation of sweets and chocolates (all individually wrapped) to go out to our hard working children. It is very important to us, that praise and reward are still delivered to children deserving of these merits, whether we are in College or not, so I am deeply grateful to the Tesco team for their support. Many thanks to all of the hard working staff at Tesco – You are all simply magic! **Mrs W Ainsworth**



Virtual School Library

In partnership with the National Literacy Trust, Oak National Academy has launched its Virtual School Library. See their introduction below:-



OAK
NATIONAL
ACADEMY

"Every week a popular children's author or illustrator will provide you with free books, exclusive videos and their top three recommended reads.

Having access to a school library is really important for children. School libraries nurture a love of reading that can enrich children's literacy skills, academic achievements and mental well-being.

Our Virtual School Library will complement existing school libraries and will ensure that children have access to the magical world of stories all year round, whether they are learning at school or at home.

We've worked with brilliant publishers and inspiring authors and illustrators to ensure that the books and activities in our Virtual School Library will support children's wellbeing through reading.

Join your local library service to discover hundreds more books and ebooks to borrow for free, and take part in fun online activities."

For more information please visit their website [here](https://www.callingtoncc.net).

FIND US ONLINE | [WWW.CALLINGTONCC.NET](https://www.callingtoncc.net)

IS YOUR CHILD USING GCSEPOD TO REVISE?



We've subscribed to the award-winning, learning and revision resource, GCSEPod

GCSEPod is designed to support your child through their GCSEs and it's never too late for them to start using it!

Top tip: Use My Courses to create a timetable with your child

“Wow! Emma actually asked if GCSEPod counted as revision as she can't believe it! I can't believe it either!”

Parent



- ✓ Check & Challenge to allow your child to independently check their own knowledge of a topic
- ✓ 3-5 minute expert-written videos [Pods] covering all the key knowledge needed for 28+ GCSE subjects
- ✓ Exam specific playlists [My Courses] provide ready-made revision
- ✓ Watch Pods together and use the identified keywords to create flashcards, memory posters and mind maps

Access your child's account at www.gcsepod.com

Your child should already be aware of their login details

5 REASONS TO DO That **Hard Task** Early

by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk



Use Your Energy Wisely

Why would you wait until you are tired to start doing the hardest task?



Reduce Procrastination

People procrastinate on things they find hard. Get a head start by taking on the stuff you struggle with first.



Get Better at future tasks

Doing the hard task first can improve your performance on subsequent tasks.



Don't get caught by The Planning Fallacy

Often things take longer than you think. Doing the hard task first gives you plenty of time to get things done.



Asking For Help

If you struggle with something, seeking out feedback and advice can help. If you leave this to the last minute, there may not be enough time.

