



Spring Common Academy

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10th December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Thank you for your continued support this term, helping us face the many challenges along the way.

As we approach the Christmas break, I know that we are all being mindful of our social activities and those we come into contact with, in order to continue to protect ourselves, our families and our wider school and home community.

It is vitally important that if your child has one of the following symptoms that you keep them off school until they have had a negative test:

- A high temperature (or very hot to touch)
- A new and persistent cough
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Christmas Test and Trace Arrangements

A delay to test results can have a big impact on those that your child may have come into contact with, including other students and staff. **We therefore ask that you endeavour to use the drive-through test centres rather than postal services.**

If your child develops symptoms after school finishes, over the weekend of the 19th and 20th December, it is **essential** that you contact the school via our website link (COVID 19 test alert) and take your child for a test immediately.

I will be checking and responding to this inbox frequently over the first week of the Christmas break, to ensure any test and trace is carried out promptly. Please forward test results via the website link and someone will contact you. Please do not use a postal test over this time unless absolutely necessary, as the delay could mean that results do not come back until Christmas Eve (which no-one wants!). We are asking all our staff to do the same.

If your child develops symptoms and has a test after the 21st December, please continue to inform us via the website link, as we are required to report these figures once school reopens.

Spring Common Academy is part of Spring Common Academy Trust

Executive Head Teacher: Dr Kim Taylor OBE Tel: 01480 377404



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Teaching & Leadership

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National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Winter Grant Scheme

Parents and carers will receive a letter from the local authority regarding the winter grant arrangements. This is a fund to help families who need additional support when schools are closed over Christmas and February half term. To receive support from the direct food voucher scheme you will need to meet the criteria for;

- Funded childcare and education for 2 year olds under the income based criteria
- Early Years Pupil Premium under income based criteria
- Free School Meals (children and young people aged 4 to 16)
- 16-19 students eligible for Free School Meals or the 16+ bursary.

For families requiring additional support or who do not meet the above criteria there will be a network of coordination hubs you can contact by completing an online form at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/wintersupport or call 0345 045 5219. Alternatively you can contact us here and we can make a referral on your behalf.

Remote Learning

We will be continuing to provide remote learning during term time for pupils who need to self-isolate. If you are in this position we will contact you with further details.

Term Dates

There has been speculation in the news and on social media about schools finishing early for Christmas for pupils. At Spring Common we have made the decision to keep our term dates as planned. The last day will be Friday 18th December 2020 and pupils will return on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

COVID Protective Measures

We will be maintaining our COVID protective measures and have recently updated our risk assessment and operational procedures, which will shortly be available on the website. These documents contain the most recent guidance up to 7th December.

I greatly appreciate your efforts in helping to keep everyone safe and I hope we will all be able to enjoy the Christmas break.

Yours faithfully



Julia McIntosh
Head of School