

Friday, August 27, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be writing to introduce myself, Simon Curtis, as your new Headteacher from September. I am privileged to have been appointed by the governing body in this role and feel honoured to take the opportunity to continue to lead John Spendluffe Technology College through the next exciting phase of its development. I would like to pay tribute to the great work Ms Shorrocks has undertaken over the last 4 years as Headteacher, where she has worked tirelessly to establish a culture and ethos where respect, responsibility, resilience and academic excellence go hand in hand; I know she will be greatly missed by the students, staff, parents and carers.

I have worked for the past 14 years at Banovallum School, Horncastle, the last 7 years as Deputy Headteacher leading on Behaviour, Curriculum and Safeguarding. I believe every child deserves the best education possible so they can become the best version of themselves. By providing a balance of academic and pastoral care, I want to enable and support all students to make the right choices once they leave JSTC ensuring they have the social skills to be happy, confident citizens and are successful in all they do.

My vision is to provide our students the experiences and opportunities to love learning by providing a broad and inspiring curriculum, positive experiences inside and outside of the classroom. Our school community will continue to thrive and improve through respect, responsibility and resilience. I will continue to work with committed staff and external partners to provide opportunities for enrichment through an extra-curricular programme which delivers exciting new experiences for our students to explore.

I am excited to be able to continue to develop the excellence which already exists here, and I am confident and determined that JSTC will continue to go from strength to strength. I am hugely fortunate to be able to work with a group of experienced and dedicated governors as well as an enabled and committed leadership team and talented group of colleagues.

Whilst we are currently working hard on finalising our plans for September, below are some key points for when we return.

### **COVID Update and testing**

As you may know, from 19 July schools will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts. NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

All students will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September and complete a LFT that day.

We will also continue to complete Lateral Flow tests twice a week in school during the month of September and then reassess this practice based on the results and figures both locally and nationally. Testing will be in GC1 (formally H5) so that the Sports Hall can be used for our PE Curriculum. Students will be informed of the process for completing this on the day.

I would like to request that your child completes an LFT prior to them returning to school, Lateral Flow Devices can be ordered here: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

This test should be taken on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September which will allow any possible cases to be identified and a PCR test to be booked the following day at a local testing centre. Further information to be found here <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If your child is displaying any traditional Covid 19 symptoms then they should take a test and parents should contact the school for guidance.

### Face Coverings

Masks will be mandatory for the first two weeks, whilst we complete the Lateral Flow Test cycle. Masks will then be optional for everyone inside the school building. If an individual feels more comfortable wearing a face covering, that is their choice.

### Uniform

At JSTC we have high expectations and standards and our uniform reflects this. Please be reminded of our uniform requirements ready for September;

- Shoes- trainers are only permitted during PE lessons, smart black formal leather/leather type shoes must be worn.
- Trousers- Black tailored trousers only. No skinny fit, cropped, jeans or flares.
- Skirt- bespoke JSTC Pencil skirt with JSTC logo, skirt to be worn just above the knee.
- Make-up- No make-up allowed, including false nails, nail varnish, false eye lashes.
- Jewellery- One pair of ear studs in lower ear lobe, no other piercings permitted.
- Hair- No extreme hair styles or hair colours, colour to be of a natural colour.

As a reminder, no uniform is now held on the JSTC site – parents will need to purchase items from our designated uniform stockist, Nationwide Uniform Supplies either by telephone or through their website (link below).

<https://www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk/school-uniform/secondary-school/john-spendluffe-technology-college>

### Equipment

Please make sure your child is fully equipped ready to learn. All students are to bring a reading book for the first day back.

Please follow the link to further details on uniform and equipment.

<https://www.john-spendluffe.lincs.sch.uk/uniformequipment.html>

I place great value in the importance of student, parent and school working in partnership which I am looking forward to developing in the weeks and months ahead. The support of families coupled with our dedicated teaching and support staff can make a real difference to the lives of our students. Please do contact me if you wish to discuss anything in further detail.

I want to thank you for the support you continue to provide the school, especially over the last 18 months. All staff members are looking forward to welcoming our students back in September for what is going to be a fantastic year of learning, laughter and achievement.

I wish you all an enjoyable last few weeks of the summer and look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Curtis  
Headteacher



**RESPECT**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**RESILIENCE**

