



WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL
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HEADTEACHER: MS IZZY JONES

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1st December 2020

Dear families

We have had four cases of coronavirus confirmed in the school community in the last few days. I am writing firstly to reassure you that we have completed the contact tracing process and unless you have been contacted separately, no further students need to isolate. We have been supported by Camden and Islington Public Health in this process and have worked with the other schools in the LaSWAP consortium to ensure that we have also traced any contacts in the 6th form. Attached to this letter is the latest information pack from Camden Council about coronavirus restrictions locally.

However, these positive tests mean that for the rest of the week at least, we have too many staff unavailable to come into school to keep the site open and safe for all students. This is not a decision I have taken lightly, and I realise presents challenges to families organising childcare and also difficulties for students in receiving continuous education. I have considered not only the level of supply cover for lessons, but also the number of permanent and established staff that we need in the building to maintain safe supervision at the beginning and end of the day, at lunch and break time, and around the building in lesson time. I am writing to you now so that families can plan as best they can for the week.

School arrangements for 2nd – 4th December

For the rest of the week we will have the following school arrangements:

- Wednesday 2nd December: Years 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 in school, Years 7 & 8 at home
- Thursday 3rd December: Years 7 & 8, 11, 12 & 13 in school, Years 9 and 10 at home
- 4th December: Years 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 in school, Years 7 & 8 at home

Students in year groups who can come to school must attend as normal, from 8:35am to 3:10pm. Normal expectations about conduct and uniform are still be in place.

When making this decision about which year groups I have taken into consideration the levels of cover for different groups, the urgency of Year 11-13 preparation for mock and external exams, and the amount of disruption students in some year groups have already experienced.

Remote learning provision

For students in year groups who are at home, they will have the following remote learning provision:

- Two live lessons each day, one in English and one in Maths – this may be at a different time to when they would have this if they were in school
- Daily registration with their tutor or another tutor in their year group at the end of the day
- Assignments for each lesson that is listed on their timetable

Students must log into Microsoft Teams at 9am each day to see their assignments and the live lessons that will be taking place. They should join the live lessons and registrations as the allotted times on their timetable.

Free School Meal and safeguarding provision

Students who are on free school meals who have been asked to stay at home to isolate or as part of a whole year group will be credited with the £2.50 per day allocated by the government. This will be paid directly to families through the Edenred voucher scheme that was used in the summer across this week and next. If any families are concerned about getting this credit they should email the school at info@williamellis.camden.sch.uk

Although the school is closed to teaching of some year groups, we will be partially operational for others. If any students are concerned about their safety or wellbeing on days when they are not in school, they should phone or visit the school and ask to see a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Yours faithfully



Ms Izzy Jones
Headteacher

See link below for latest guidance from government :

[Local restriction tiers: what you need to know - GOV.UK
\(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)