



Spalding High School



Weekly Bulletin 18.03.21

As we reach the end of our second week back, students have continued to ease back into normal school routines with confidence and enthusiasm. School feels “alive” again, as you hear lessons, learning, laughter and chatter about the site, in addition to joyful exclamations in the canteen as to how much “Chip Friday” and “Roast Wednesday” have been missed! Let’s all continue to work hard to reduce the R rate and keep schools open.

Students have again impressed this week with their maturity in dealing with the on-site LFD tests and we are about to start the home test cycles as per the letter sent home on 15th March. I also want to thank not only our on-site Covid Testing Team but also the amazing parent/grandparent volunteers. A number of volunteers have been with us for hours (and whole days) helping with the on-site testing of students and staff, and we quite simply could not have achieved the mass testing without their support. Thank you to all those parents and grandparents who have given of their time, energy and humour so willingly to support the safe return of students and staff.

Updated Government advice for parents/carers

The Government have updated their advice for parents/carers of school/college aged children during the pandemic. It can be found here:

[What parents need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19)
(www.gov.uk)

Covid FAQ

Please find attached, our updated Covid FAQ document. All hyperlinks to government documents have been updated and we have added questions to reflect the changes to the close contacts lists and LFD school and home tests. Please note that the 10-day self-isolation period has been made more specific to 10 FULL days since the last contact with the positive case. Please keep this document safe for future reference.

LFD Home Testing Kits

By the end of Friday, all year groups will have completed their three on-site LFD tests. Y10-Sixth Form have already been given their test kits and Y7-9 will be given them on Friday 19th.

Please refer to the letter sent home on 15th March for information and dates for each year group to test at home. It is important that students follow the schedule below so that we can move the entire school to a point where we can all test on a Wednesday and Sunday each week. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

DATE	YEAR GROUP	YEAR GROUP	STAFF
Sunday 21 st March	Y10 (HOME)	Y11 & SIXTH FORM (HOME)	(HOME)
Monday 22 nd March	Y10 follow up	Y11 & Sixth Form follow up	
Tuesday 23 rd March	Y7 (HOME) Y9 (HOME)	Y8 (HOME)	
Wednesday 24 th March	Y7 follow up Y9 Follow up	Y8 follow up	(HOME)
Thursday 25 th March	Y10 (HOME)	Y11 & SIXTH FORM (HOME)	
Friday 26 th March	Y10 follow up	Y11 & Sixth Form follow up	
Sunday 28 th March	Y7 (HOME) Y9 (HOME) Y10 (HOME)	Y8 (HOME) Y11 (HOME) SIXTH FORM (HOME)	(HOME)
Monday 29 th March	Y7 Y9 Y10 follow up	Y8, Y11 & Sixth Form follow up	
Tuesday 30 th March			
Wednesday 31 st March	Whole School HOME TEST		(HOME)

BLUE – HOME TESTS

RED - FOLLOW UP

School Uniform Years 7-11 and Sixth Form Dress Code

We are very much aware that lockdown and the change of our supplier from Hill's to Shotbowl has meant that obtaining items of school uniform may have been a challenge for the return to school last week. We are grateful to have the students back and have wanted to get them back into school routines but have to highlight that not all students are currently following uniform rules. We are very aware of the financial impact of the pandemic and the job uncertainty that exists for many families at the current time. If any family is finding it difficult to source or fund items, please contact your child's Head of Year, in confidence, and we will do the best we can to support.

Shotbowl are now able to provide uniform items and most high street shops are operating an effective on-line delivery service https://www.shotbowl.com/school-uniform/School_Uniform_Shop/Spalding-High-School

From the start of Term 5 (Monday 19th April) the School moves to summer uniform – please see uniform list at the bottom of this week's bulletin and the following link for the Sixth Form dress code:

<https://www.spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk/media//Sixth%20Form%20Dress%20Code%202020.pdf>

Further to the summer uniform/dress code list attached, we would like to stress the following points:

- If your summer shirts no longer fits and you cannot source new ones at the moment, your child may continue to wear their winter shirt and school tie.
- Trouser length must be long enough to reach the main body of the shoe – no higher. We know that parents may have found it difficult to source new trousers since Hill's closed but this, combined with a trend for "ankle grazer" trousers, has meant that some students are now wearing trousers that are far too short.
- False eyelashes are not to be worn to school.
- Students must read and follow the jewellery rules carefully.

Dropping off forgotten items

If students forget an item of equipment or book/folder, please speak to your tutor. Students are **not** to contact parents and ask them to drop forgotten items off at reception later in the day. We respectfully request parents support us in this matter so that we can continue to minimise both the number of visitors to reception and the number of personal items they are asked to deal with.

Careers Update

Springpod Virtual Work Experience

Some of our students completed virtual work experience programmes in February and Penelope Baxter and Ella Ogden have written about their experiences for this week's bulletin. Here is the link to the Springpod website if any students are interested in gaining experience which is useful for adding to a CV, including in an application or for finding out more about a career path: <https://www.springpod.co.uk/>

Penelope Baxter – Year 10

Over the February half term, I took part in a law virtual work experience programme hosted by Springpod. I applied in early February, looking for a useful alternative to physical work experience which I thought would probably not go ahead considering the current situation.

The course was focussed on building a primary understanding of aspects, techniques, terms and practices for those involved looking to enter into law, including me. It featured activities such as creating posters and studying contracts to find information for a case, texts to read and webinars to watch; all of which we could learn from and take notes on. It took a significant amount of time over the half-term but it was worth it and I didn't have any other big plans!

My favourite part was listening to professionals talk about their own careers so that I could see the industry through the eyes of individuals experiencing it first-hand. Having been interested in this route for a few years now, it has only inspired me even more to continue and work hard to get there.

During the programme we also learnt about different routes into law, whether that be going to university, becoming a trainee and working your way up or following an apprenticeship; this would be similar in many other industries and I'm glad I know I have these options available to me.

I would definitely recommend the Springpod programme as a helpful substitute to real-life work experience. I learned so much that I am sure will help me greatly and give me a head start in the future. Although I personally had a good idea of which career I wanted to follow, with such a variety of courses available there are loads of things to have a go at if anyone was not sure yet.

Ella Ogden – Year 12

During February half-term I took part in the Springpod Teaching Virtual Work Experience programme. It took two weeks to complete the whole course and I spent around 5 hours each week completing the work for the program. It included information on different aspects of teaching from lesson planning to safeguarding. Each topic had a quiz and activity to complete and submit to put your learning into practice. My highlight of the course was having a live Q&A session at the end of each webinar that had been hosted by people in the teaching industry.

I would recommend the course to any student who is interested in pursuing a career in teaching as it is very informative and gives lots of helpful information about ways to become a teacher. I would like to become a primary school teacher in the future and this programme really helped me learn key information that I will be able to take with me to university and beyond.

Year 13 students – Student Finance Applications:

If you have not yet started your student finance application, this presentation produced by the University of Leicester provides a useful overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtL6azt2aoM>

LincHigher Live Sessions (Years 9-13):

I sent out information on 3rd March about the LincHigher Live online sessions for students in Years 9-13. The new platform is to support students with decisions about future study options and careers. The schedule of webinars continues to run throughout March at 4pm each day. Please see the attachment for detailed information.

Support:

As always, we can be contacted by email if parents or students in any year group have any queries:

Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Lucy.obrien@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Bushell - Careers Leader

SCHOOL UNIFORM Y7-Y11

WINTER UNIFORM: To be worn from October holiday until the Easter break (April).

COAT:

A coat, raincoat or duffel coat of a dark colour. Black coats are also acceptable. Coats should be plain and not emblazoned with logos. Hooded sweatshirts are for use in games and PE only.

SKIRT: A dark navy, full pleated skirt of prescribed fabric and pattern and of suitable length for school.

Fabric: should be dark navy, twill or plain weave. **Stretch and jersey fabrics are unsuitable.**

Length: should be on the knee to mid-calf. Skirts with slits are **not** permitted.

TROUSERS:

Plain, dark navy, smart, tailored trousers may be worn as an alternative to the skirt.

Fabric: should be in similar fabric and colour to the skirt. **Stretch, “skinny fit” and jersey fabrics are unsuitable.**

Length: must be full length (on the shoe and not “ankle grazers”) and of school approved style, as available from Shotbowl and other major school wear stockists.

BLOUSE:

Plain long-sleeved white blouse, tucked into skirt/trousers at all times. Button-down collars and large pockets are not suitable.

SCHOOL TIE:

Separate styles of tie are available for KS3 (Years 7-9) - plain maroon; KS4 (Years 10-11) - navy with maroon stripes; the Sixth Form Prefects - navy with maroon and white stripes.

PULLOVER: Navy pullover with maroon band.

TIGHTS/SOCKS:

Navy blue, black or beige tights. Navy, black, white or maroon socks (in plain, single colours – ankle or on the knee). Above the knee/mid-thigh socks are unsuitable when worn with a school skirt.

SHOES:

Plain shoes of formal low-heeled style, (not backless and not higher than 3-4cm) in black leather (not suede). Trainers, high or platform soles are not allowed. Warm boots may be used for travelling to school in very cold weather, but pupils must change into shoes for wear inside school.

SUMMER UNIFORM: May be worn from after the Easter break (April) until the October holiday.

BLOUSE:

A plain, short sleeved, white open neck blouse (reversed collar) made of cotton/poly-cotton as available from the School’s supplier.

TIGHTS OR SOCKS: Must be worn with shoes.

JEWELLERY: Pupils may wear one watch, one plain small ring, one small chain necklace (underneath the blouse) and one pair of small stud earrings in the earlobe. Facial piercings, tongue studs and upper ear piercings, are not allowed.

MAKEUP: A discreet amount of foundation may be worn but it should not be obviously visible. It is not appropriate to wear excessive and highly noticeable make-up in school. Nail varnish, including clear, and artificial nails are not to be worn. False or beauty enhanced/modified eye lashes are not allowed.

HAIRSTYLES AND COLOUR: Hairstyles should be appropriate for the school environment, avoiding ornamentation and excessive styling or extreme haircuts, and must be within the bounds of normal hair colour, containing no obvious streaks or dip dye.