

KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



learning to flourish

Principal Alan Salt

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7th October 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

A quick update to bring you up to speed on our week so far.

I know many of you are very disappointed that the planned immunisation offer for COVID-19 to students has not been able to go ahead. Please be assured we are doing everything in our power to work with health authorities to make this happen as soon as possible. When we have further new information you will be informed without delay, but in the meantime, thank you for your patience.

It has also been a quieter week with regard to new COVID cases, with only 6 new confirmed infections.

Many of you may be aware that we had a police presence at the end of the school day yesterday. Whilst it is very common to have police colleagues here on visits and professional meetings, yesterday we asked police to attend as we had seven adults come onto the school site without authorisation, intent on disrupting the immunisation programme for flu that was underway and spreading anti-vax messages around COVID-19.

School staff made sure students were safe and that the adults were not able to interact with young people, and the police's swift response ensured the matter was dealt with quickly and that the potential to disrupt and worry our students was kept to an absolute minimum. Again, we find it hugely disappointing and frustrating that adults would seek to impact on all of our young people and their families' rights to have, or not to have, any immunisation.

Please be reassured that we are following up this incident with the police and all agencies to prevent any repetition, to ensure that individuals are identified and that the incident is appropriately investigated.

The message to our school community and students remains that all of our young people will have the right to make their own decision about immunisations without any interference from others. We will respect their choices and ensure that they can continue to attend school without any unnecessary worry or harassment.

If you have any questions or feedback on this or any other school matters, please don't forget we have a scheduled Q & A for parents and carers this evening at 5pm-6pm. The online code is shared with you in a separate email.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Alan Salt
Principal

