

12^h May 2021

Dear Stakeholders (Learners, Parents/Carers, Apprentices, Employers, Staff and Directors)

Eid celebrations and confirmation of Eid holiday

We would like to wish you all Eid Mubarak and confirm that the college will be closed for Eid celebrations tomorrow, Thursday 13 May as outlined in my last letter to you all. For those of you who do not know what Eid is or would like to join in the celebrations with our Muslim colleagues, you can read more information here from the BBC Bitesize.

For Clarity all Teacher Assessments due to take place on tomorrow (Thursday 13 May) for year 11's will now take place on Monday 17 May.

Covid-19 update

We have had guidance on the next step on the road map for secondary schools and colleges by the government. They have been exceptionally clear that year bubbles, cleaning hands, social distancing, staggered starts and ends and all the other mechanisms put in to keep everyone safe are to remain until 21st June 2021 at the earliest.

Scientists have deemed that mask wearing by staff and learners in classrooms and around the college will not be necessary from next Monday and not before. However, social distancing will still need to take place for teachers when teaching lessons and staff will be required to wear a face covering in communal areas.

Of course, any learners or staff that wish to continue wearing a face covering are able to do so and we would like to thank our college community for playing their part in supporting efforts to contain this virus. We are really looking forward to some "normality" and over the coming weeks will be sending details to learners regarding Employer Engagement activities (Years 9 and 10) and Level 3 Taster Lessons for our current Year 11. We will also be inviting our external applicants to taster sessions from week beginning 21st June.

As a college we are very proud that we have only had one confirmed case since our return on 8th March. However nationally, 9% of the country's students are in isolation due to coming in to contact with a positive COVID-19 case. Therefore, it is vital that our learners and staff continue to regularly test themselves and carry out their daily Covid-19 declarations in order to keep our community safe.

The College's Risk Assessments will be updated accordingly.

Keep safe,

Geoffrey Fowler CEO & Principal