

4 January 2022

Dear Student

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to college for the new term from tomorrow. All lessons and any exams scheduled in January will be going ahead as planned.

**All students are reminded to take a Lateral Flow test at home this evening (Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January) or tomorrow morning before returning to campus.**

Please ensure you receive a negative result before attending campus. Self-testing at home should then continue twice-weekly in line with government guidelines. Lateral Flow test kits can be collected from Learner Services.

It is really important that you let us know you have taken your test and the result. You can do this by simply completing [this form](#). You must also report your test to the NHS - this can be done [here](#).

If you have recently (within 90 days) tested positive for Covid-19, you should resume twice-weekly Lateral Flow testing once you have completed your period of isolation.

### Face coverings in colleges

When used correctly, wearing a face covering reduces the spread of coronavirus droplets, helping to protect the College community.

Government guidance released on 2 January 2022 recommends that face masks are to be **worn by students within classrooms** unless you are exempt. **This means that you are now expected to wear a face mask at all times within College buildings, including in classrooms.**

If you are taking part in a sports lesson or physical activity and wearing a face covering would impact on your ability to take part, this rule does not apply. However, you must put your face covering back on once the activity is complete.

If you are exempt from wearing a face covering for any reason, **you must provide Evidence of Exemption**. Adults aged 18 and over should provide a medical note which clarifies why the exemption is required. If you are under 18, a letter from your parent would also be accepted. All evidence of exemption should be given to the Wellbeing Team based in the Learner Zone.

You will be expected to provide your own face coverings, please remember to bring them with you.

The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26 January when regulations are reviewed by the Government.

### **Ventilation**

We make sure there's an adequate supply of fresh air (ventilation) in enclosed areas of our colleges wherever possible without being too cold, however there will be occasions where the temperature will drop lower than what we are used to. Therefore, you may wish to consider wearing extra layers or warmer clothing throughout the winter period.

Yours sincerely



Denise Williamson  
Principal

