

5 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Covid-19 and West Lancashire College closure update. Please check [here](#) for the latest information. This will be updated as we receive more information.

On Monday 4 January 2021, the Government announced emergency measures to close schools and colleges across England until at least Monday 15 February, with some exceptions to support critical workers and vulnerable students. Following this decision, I wanted to get in touch to confirm learning arrangements for our students and apprentices for the foreseeable future.

West Lancashire College will not ask students to return to face-to-face teaching and all teaching and learning will be delivered remotely. Whilst face-to-face teaching will stop, it is still expected that all students continue to learn remotely.

The College will remain open for:

students on an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), looked-after children and those identified as vulnerable and therefore would benefit from continued full-time attendance. students who have parents that are classified as a key worker.

Exams and Assessments

If students are scheduled to attend an exam or practical assessment this week, they should continue to prepare to attend. Current government guidance states that BTEC exams and other practical assessments currently scheduled to take place in January are to go ahead as planned. There is however a lot of publicity around this situation and this may change over the coming hours and days. In the event of any change, we will communicate this with you directly.

Learning away from College

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, we have closely followed government guidance and taken every step necessary to protect our students' health. During the first national lockdown in March 2020, we quickly moved to remote learning and supported our students for the remainder of the academic year to help them successfully complete their studies. Since we reopened in September, all of our teachers have been planning for the eventuality of another move to remote learning. Please be assured that we are fully prepared to deliver our teaching remotely.

It is important that students and apprentices are aware that learning has not stopped and all students are expected to continue learning remotely. Apprentices should continue to

attend their place of work unless their employer tells them otherwise. Their Skills Trainers and lecturers will continue to support them.

Questions and Updates

I understand this is an unsettling time for our students and you as their parents, guardians and carers. Please be assured that we will continue to do everything we can to support our students throughout this period. Please continue to check our website and social media pages for our most up-to-date information and guidance.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter. I know we will pull together as a community throughout this period. I look forward to welcoming all of our students and colleagues back to campus as soon as possible.

Best wishes

Denise Williamson
Principal



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