

Centre Principal: Anne-Marie Francis

23 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The end of this academic year has been extremely different for our students, which has seen many being supported by you in their education at home. We would like to thank you for all your work with your children and in the liaisons with the college. This has ensured that our students have had access to support from the college and other services where needed.

When the college re-opens in September it will be for all students. We do not underestimate the importance of ensuring that all of our students return to full time education in September; the positive impact on their wellbeing, mental health and learning is significant. We will be providing some more detailed information in the form of FAQ's on our website, which will help with some of your queries. We want the strong partnership between the college, parents and guardians to continue to ensure the very best outcomes for our students.

There may be some young people who are required to continue to shield in September 2020 and have received shielding letters; our college staff will help support those individuals, and we will continue to provide remote learning for these students. This however will be the exception. Our staff are very aware of the needs of the students returning and will work very closely with each individual to support them as they come back to fulltime education. Staff have trained on health and well-being and this will be at the forefront of their interactions with students. If you do have concerns, then please speak to the college staff, contacting your students progress tutor or the guidance team.

The college will continue to adhere to the government guidelines. Students who have not had a need to come in to college for assessments / meetings will see some changes. We have planned measures to ensure the safest possible environment such as:

- students will be timetabled in 'bubbles / super-bubbles' and, generally speaking, will stay in one area of the college
- staggered start and end times for the day
- staggered lunch breaks
- reduced periods of non-teaching time on site
- increased signage reminding us of social distancing
- directional arrows in corridors
- increased cleaning regimes
- availability of hand sanitiser and surface wipes
- cough shields to allow face to face conversations to occur safely

It remains a priority for us to provide a warm and welcoming environment whilst also accommodating the appropriate safety measures.

We will continue to provide flexible approaches to support services, including the use of online platforms for 1:1 support sessions, guidance and counselling sessions in addition to the in person options.

Colleges are unique and are very different from each other, for example factors such as the buildings and staffing impact on how they we respond to ensure the health and safety of the students and staff. The college has undergone rigorous risk assessments, which have been shared with staff, the trade unions and external agencies as appropriate. We remain committed to responding in the most appropriate way to the circumstances in our college, best using the significant space that we have available on our high quality estate.

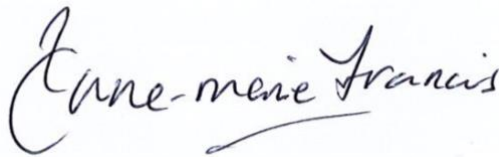
If you feel that your son / daughter / ward would benefit from a visit to the college site before returning to classes, please contact the college and we would be happy to make such arrangements.

We hope that you all manage a good summer with your families and look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Kind regards



Michelle Brabner  
Principal CEO



Anne-Marie Francis  
Centre Principal