



23 October 2020

Dear Student and Parent

We want to thank all students for their hard work and dedication over the last few months, it has been a challenging time, but your resilience and positivity has been amazing.

As we approach half term for our further education students I wanted to write to you with an update and a few reminders.

We continue to manage a very challenging situation; ensuring students are able to continue to learn and make progress whilst maintaining the health and safety of all our staff and students across the Inspire Education Group. We are reviewing the situation and data constantly, both locally and nationally and our delivery model will remain a mix of remote and face to face learning.

Should the situation improve as we go through the winter into spring we are hopeful that we can increase face to face delivery for students.

Confirmed Cases

We have managed a small number of confirmed COVID-19 cases since the start of term. In every case we follow the government guidance, report it to the appropriate organisation, go through the risk assessment and work with Public Health (PH) colleagues to identify appropriate actions. These actions include communication to staff, students and parents. PH colleagues are clear with whom we should communicate. We have only issued one all student communication at each campus, this was because we had two cases in the same area. Usually the instruction is not to alert the wider college community and to only inform those who have been identified as close contacts.

Because we are maintaining curriculum 'bubbles', social distancing and careful hygiene and cleaning routines, the number of students and staff required to self-isolate following confirmed COVID-19 cases has remained very small.

Should a student be notified that they must self-isolate and they are currently on campus they will need to go home as soon as possible. We will support students to arrive home safely and may require parents / guardians to collect their young person if there is no other way to transport them safely.

The team involved in this activity are working tirelessly, seven days a week to manage this and our thanks go to all those involved. We want all students and parents to be assured that our approach is to follow public health experts' advice when it comes to



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confirmed cases and we will continue to deal with these swiftly and effectively. We appreciate that this can be difficult to understand, and it is not appropriate to inform every one of all cases but please be assured that safely managing these situations are our priority at this time.

GCSE English and maths autumn exams

Both colleges are currently working through the logistics of offering students an opportunity to sit their GCSE exam. We feel it is important to offer our students this opportunity, however it is vital that we maintain the health and safety of our college communities. There may be changes to vocational lessons and working arrangements week commencing 2nd November and additional communications are being issued to the small number of students that are impacted.

FE Festive Foodbank Campaign

Following the successful fund-raising efforts during lockdown for the national FE Foodbank Friday campaign, 30 colleges across the country are working together to relaunch this initiative, with a twist! Peterborough College raised nearly £1000 during lockdown, which was donated to the Kingsgate Centre.

Festive FE Foodbank Friday will be launched later this month with the aim of raising £12,000 and 30,000 food items in donations. The Inspire Education Group are taking part in the festive fundraising efforts and would like your support in helping reach the national target.

All food items will be donated to Peterborough and Stamford foodbanks. If you would like to donate a monetary value to the fund-raising effort this can be done via the following link

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/FestiveFEFoodbankFriday>

Please note – this is the link to the national campaign and all monies raised will be given to The Trussell Trust, the money may or may not be given to our local foodbanks. The trust oversees the network of foodbanks in the UK and distributes the donations to the most in need.

You may prefer to donate food items – any donation no matter how small will make a difference. Any non-perishable food items can be given to the Wellbeing Centre at Peterborough College.

Please help us reach our target because no one in this country should be going hungry.



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Reminders

Face coverings or visors are to be worn indoors at all times by staff and students (unless you are working on your own / independently away from others)

All students are reminded that there is extensive information on the colleges website, including the 'Get Ready To Come To College Guide' which you can access using the [This Link](#).

IMPORTANT – Students must notify college (including over half term) if

- You have COVID symptoms
- You have been contacted by NHS Track and Trace and told to self-isolate e.g. because a member of your household has had a positive test
- You have had a positive test result

Contact Details:

Tel: 01733 762237

Email: Safeguarding.PRC@peterborough.ac.uk

Please ensure you state your name, course and leave a contact telephone number.

All students are reminded of the following:

- Follow social distancing protocols – 2 metre distance where possible, 1 metre within classrooms and workshops
- Regularly wash your hands and use hand sanitizer
- Follow directional signage around campus
- Do not cross geographical bubbles where in operation

For those of you who are benefiting from half term next week, do take care and have a restful break. Keep safe and remember to follow the government guidance.

Best Wishes

Rachel Nicholls

Inspire Education Group Deputy CEO & Peterborough College Principal



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