

23 February 2021

Dear Staff, Students and Parents

You will be aware that the government have announced that schools and colleges can return to face to face teaching from 8th March 2021 and that students on practical higher education courses can also return to campus. There are a number of logistical issues that need working through to enable this to happen, in particular around testing. We are working through the specific government guidance for Further Education and Higher Education that was released yesterday, you can access this guidance by clicking these links <u>FE Operational Guidance Feb 2021</u> and <u>HE Operational Guidance Feb 2021</u>

We will be writing to all staff and students to confirm arrangements for week commencing 8th March by the middle of next week. It is our intention to facilitate Covid testing for as many individuals as possible and enable a phased return to a blended delivery model of face to face and remote teaching and learning as quickly as possible. This is a challenge for all providers and particularly large college groups with over 8000 individuals, your patience and support is appreciated as we try to implement the government guidelines and a safe return to campus as soon as is practical.

Best Wishes

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