

8th January 2021

Dear Students

I would like to begin by wishing you a Happy New Year and hope you had a safe and enjoyable festive period. Since I last wrote to you, you will have seen in the news that the Government has moved to its next stage in their efforts to combat COVID-19. In line with Government guidelines, the College is required to close to the majority of students and is asking students to work from home wherever possible. The only exceptions to this are vulnerable students and the children of critical workers who cannot work from home – Nuneaton and Wigston campuses will remain open for these students. College staff will contact you to confirm arrangements if you fall into these categories. Hinckley campus will be open on a Wednesday for the collection of specialist resources for students. It is expected that this closure period will be in place until February half-term.

All lessons will now be online and you will be able to access these in the same way you did last term. They will be the same as your usual timetable. For students in Inspire you will continue with lessons onsite each day, but with a slightly changed timetable which teachers will make you aware of.

We are very aware of the pressure of the pandemic, the impact that it has on your studies and how it may affect you all. Welfare services will be available at Nuneaton and Wigston campuses throughout the week, and at Hinckley campus on a Wednesday. Drop into reception and ask for safeguarding. You can also contact the safeguarding team at any time by emailing safe@nwslc.ac.uk, or ring reception on 0330 058 3000 and ask for safeguarding.

In summary from the 11th January:

- **All students' timetables will run as normal. Tutors will be delivering sessions remotely and students will be able to access online.**
- **For students who are vulnerable, have an EHCP, or do not have access to suitable IT equipment, your timetables will run as normal and you will be able to come in to College to access your sessions. College staff will contact all students in these categories over the coming days.**
- **Welfare services will be offered onsite at Nuneaton and Wigston throughout the week and at Hinckley one day per week. This service will be available for all students via a bookable system or drop in.**
- **For students in Inspire classes will continue but with a revised timetable.**

Contd/...

Wigston Campus

Blaby Road
South Wigston
Leicestershire
LE18 4PH

Nuneaton Campus

Hinckley Road
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV11 6BH

Hinckley Campus

Lower Bond Street
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1QU

Harrowbrook Campus

Harrowbrook Industrial Estate
Nuffield Road
Hinckley
LE10 3DT

MIRA Technology Institute

MIRA Technology Park
1 Eastern Avenue
Nuneaton
CV10 0UX

How your coursework, exams and assessed work is graded this year will change, and the College is working with Government and awarding bodies to address how we fairly assess your work to ensure none of you are disadvantaged as a result of the national position. We are aware that many courses require access to College equipment onsite and please be assured that as soon as lockdown is over we will be supporting you to catch up and ensure there are no gaps in your learning.

The College is continuing to develop and implement mass testing for COVID-19 and testing on our campuses will be available very shortly. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, testing will allow us to take further measures to help you and other students to remain in college. You will receive a letter in due course providing you with more information about the testing programme in our College including how you undergo, and provide consent for testing.

It is absolutely essential that if students, or anyone they live with, develops any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (including a continuous cough, temperature or fever, loss/change in taste or smell) they do not attend College and self-isolate in accordance with the Government's guidance and be tested as soon as possible. It is vital that you inform us that they have symptoms and the outcome of the test they have.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your support and reassure you that we are continuing to work to ensure that we strike the right balance of providing an excellent learning experience whilst also keeping everyone as safe as possible. We recognise that this is not the start to the New Year that anyone had hoped for, or expected. Please be assured that we will maintain the quality and consistency of our delivery throughout the coming weeks and will ensure students are not disadvantaged as a result of this recent lockdown.

Yours faithfully



Tom Hamilton-Dick
Deputy Principal – Curriculum & Innovation

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