

15th February 2021

Dear Apprentice

I would like to thank you for the tremendous dedication you have shown over the course of the last half term, which we appreciate has not necessarily gone as planned as a result of the national lockdown and offer you an update as to where we are as a college in relation to your training.

Whilst many off the job remote classes will not take place over the half term period (15th – 19th February), our Trainer Assessors are still working and our wellbeing and support services will continue every day at both our Nuneaton and Wigston campuses.

We look forward to welcoming you back (virtually!) after the half term break, when we will be continuing to deliver classes remotely via on-line teaching and learning. This will be the case for most of our students until such time as the government announce that schools and colleges can return to on-site delivery.

Theory based learning remotely - continues.

For some of you, your learning should not have been too disrupted as you would not previously have attended one of our sites for your training or we have been able to continue your training remotely via Smart Rooms or Teams.

Practical Training on our college sites – delayed.

We know that for many of you a key component of your apprenticeship programme is to learn practical skills, which would usually be taught on campus, and we continue to prepare hard behind the scenes to ensure that as soon as lockdown is lifted we can bring you back quickly and safely in line with government guidelines.

Returning to college - Testing

In line with current government guidelines, we are planning to bring a small group of students and apprentices back to complete practical training and assessments after half term; this will only apply to students who are due to finish their course before the end of March 2021 initially and we will write to those individuals and employers immediately after the half term break.

Please be aware that the College has now set-up on-site Covid-19 testing facilities at our main campuses and we will be offering free 'lateral flow' tests to all students when they return to campus. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help students to remain in College safely. Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are self-administered and are quick and easy using a swab of the nose and throat. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with students participating. The test is voluntary, but we would encourage everyone to take part. Students who are happy to be tested will be required to fill in the form and consent statement using the following link: [Consent Form for Completion](#)

Students under 18 can consent themselves, however, we recommend that you discuss your participation in the testing with your parent / carer.

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

Final Achievement

Inline with the lockdown from 2020 we do not expect the apprentices to go through the calculated grade process, as you are training in competency based roles we need to complete your training and support you to achieve. You may find some of your assessments have been adapted but not many.

For some of you the delay to your training due to being on furlough or not being able to attend college will understandably cause you frustration. Please be assured that we are making every effort to get you back in as soon as we can, safely and working as smart as we can to support you to achieve. Please speak to your Trainer Assessor/Lecturers should you have any concerns or require any support and please remember our wellbeing services are available to you.

Testing Positive for Covid-19

Should you or anyone in your family test positive for Covid-19 please inform the College via safe@nwslc.ac.uk. When you do return to site it is essential that you follow our Covid-19 guidelines and adhere to our 'hands, space and face' expectations, this will help to keep you and those around you safe.

Support Services

We are very aware of the pressure of the pandemic, the impact that it has and how it may affect you. We do have support functions at the college that you may find helpful.

- Face to face welfare services that will be available via bookable slots on our Nuneaton and Wigston campuses throughout the week. You can explore the hub using the following link: <https://www.nwslc.ac.uk/wellbeing-hub/>
- Our Online Wellbeing Hub includes a variety of information and support on things such as mental health, exercise, healthy eating and how to get help in an emergency. You can explore the hub using the following link: <https://www.nwslc.ac.uk/wellbeing-hub/>
- There is a Wellbeing section on your Smart Assessor Portfolio, here you will find a range of links and resources that they may find useful.
- NWSLC Learning App – you should have this downloaded on your phone for contact details and useful signposting to various support agencies and avenues.

I would like to remind you that it is important to maintain your mental wellbeing as well as keeping yourself physically safe during these times. Our Safeguarding and Support Teams will be working throughout, and the contact details are on our website, Smart Assessor and via our **NWSLC Learning App**.

Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment, rest assured we are doing all that we can to support you to achieve your programme.

Yours faithfully

K E Urwin

Katy Urwin

Director of Apprenticeships

PLEASE SHARE A COPY OF THIS WITH YOUR EMPLOYER

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