



An email from Julia Howe – 31 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Start of Spring Term – Revised Arrangements

Further to my earlier email regarding the start of term, please find below a summary of our current plans. I am sure that you will realise, government guidance for colleges is issued through a variety of sources and quite often, with very little notice. A number of major changes were announced yesterday, 30th December and we expect further announcements in the coming days/weeks, please be reassured that we will update you as soon as we can as and when changes occur. So, please can I ask that you bear with us whilst we work through the detail and plan and develop processes to ensure that we can continue to deliver education effectively and in a safe environment for all.

Monday 4th January

- This will remain a planning day for all staff – the College is closed.
- Plans for the deployment of the lateral-flow mass testing for students and staff will continue. More information will be published alongside details of data protection and the method to be used for consent to testing
- Tutors will contact students to share plans for remote delivery for the remainder of the week.

Tuesday 5th January – Friday 8th January

- Scheduled examinations will continue as planned
- Remote learning provision will be in place for students including apprentices and Higher Education students
- Students of designated Critical Workers, those with an EHCP or otherwise identified are able to attend on-site provision, where they will follow their normal timetable and access lessons in their regular classrooms alongside their lecturers. We ask that all families wishing to make use of this provision for this week to contact Kelly_Bush@weymouth.ac.uk. If you have already made contact as a result of my earlier email, there is no need to send an additional email, details have already been shared
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable students to continue with remote learning
- Plans for all staff to be tested through this week
- Plans for the deployment of mass testing for students and staff will continue
- Students who will continue with remote learning for 11th – 15th January to be confirmed and communicated through Tutors
- Transport arrangements and staggered return for students starting Monday 11th January to be confirmed and communicated through Tutors

Monday 11th January – Friday 15th January

- Onsite face-to-face teaching will resume for students who are due to sit external examinations within this current year, classes will follow the normal timetable schedule
- Remote learning provision will continue for all remaining students
- Onsite face-to-face teaching will continue for students of designated Critical Workers, those with an EHCP or otherwise identified
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable students to continue with remote learning
- Potential roll-out of mass testing for students onsite

Monday 18th January onwards (Please note that this date is likely to undergo further review by government in the interim period and therefore may well change).

- Onsite face-to-face teaching will resume for all students
- The ambition is that two rounds of testing is in place for all remaining students in their first week back. Again, where students in these groups have been identified as a *close contact* for a positive case, they will be offered the opportunity to have daily testing prior to the start of the College day as an alternative to undergoing a period of self-isolation
- Moving forward it is the ambition that regular testing will continue for all students, however full details of the expectations are yet to be published
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable students to continue with remote learning

Can I also remind you that if there are any further questions, reports of positive cases or students needing to self-isolate prior to return please contact the College Covid email covid@weymouth.ac.uk and follow the current government guidelines.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and trust as we collectively navigate the rapidly changing educational landscape.

Best wishes for the New Year

Julia

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