



Dear Students,

Firstly a warm welcome or welcome back for the start of the Autumn Term 2021. I hope that you had an enjoyable break over the summer and are looking forward to starting College in the next few days.

If you are new to Weymouth College, we hope that you enjoy your induction and settle in to your new group on your course – as we know starting something new can sometimes be quite daunting. I would like to remind you that if you feel nervous, concerned or worried please make contact with your tutors, the curriculum administrators or the student services team as soon as you possibly can, we are all here to help you. There is a huge amount of support available to help you with the transition to start your journey with us at Weymouth College. We also fully appreciate that the last 2 years have been very disruptive for you and your learning, I can't stress enough how important it is to keep talking to your tutors, right from the start – they are here to help and support you.

I also wanted to share with you that today is my first day as Principal and Chief Executive Officer at Weymouth College and I am really excited and feel very honoured to start this new position and with you, the staff, and the local community, I am looking forward to the next phase of our journey. I have worked as part of the Senior Leadership Team at Weymouth for over 7 years and have worked in education for over 32 years - I truly believe that the College is a fantastic place to study and learn, all I ask is that you make the most of every opportunity available to you during your time with us. I will be sending out communications each term and look forward to meeting you around the campus as you start your studies.

In preparation for your return, please find below an update on:

Covid-19 Testing:

The government have requested that colleges resume the Covid-19 testing facility through to the end of September. You will be offered the opportunity to be tested twice on site on your return, however, if you would prefer you will be able to request a home lateral flow test kit to complete testing at home. Information on how to book on site testing, and/or request a home test kit, will be sent out to you prior to the start of term.

In terms of other precautions

- You will no longer be required to wear a face mask, however, you of course, can continue to wear a mask if you wish.
- You will no longer be required to social in bubbles.
- We will not prevent anyone who wishes to wear a mask from doing so, however in the classroom we recommend face coverings are not worn by teaching staff to facilitate communication
- We will continue to recommend use of hand sanitiser and good hygiene practice
- Rooms should continue to be well ventilated

Vaccinations:

To keep yourself, your peers and our staff safe we are also urging you take up the opportunity to be vaccinated. You can book your vaccination through the following link to the NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

With very best wishes

Julia



Julia Howe
Principal and Chief Executive Officer
Weymouth College

 01305 208919
07711 017994

 Julia_Howe@weymouth.ac.uk

