

Providing the Tools for Mastery

6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and coping through these increasingly challenging times. Our priority is to keep students and staff safe while responding to changing national guidelines. Given the government's recent decision to introduce a national lockdown, I am writing to let you know of arrangements during this period.

Keeping staff and students safe

Face coverings

- All students and staff must wear face coverings on entering all buildings and when moving around inside
- All students are encouraged to wear face coverings in all lessons

I appreciate that this goes beyond what is normally required in schools but, given the circumstances, we believe this is what will keep everyone as safe as possible. Guidance published on 4th November by the Department of Education states that 'face coverings should be worn by students and staff in secondary schools and further education colleges in communal spaces, outside of classrooms, where social distancing cannot be maintained'.

We hope that you will support us with these new measures and that you will let us know if your child is exempt from wearing face coverings.

At the start of the school year we issued students with their own stationery pack that included to pens and pencils to reduce the risk of transmission through borrowing and sharing equipment.

We introduced other measures around the taking of temperatures, ventilation, one way systems, sanitising hands, cleaning desks and chairs and physical distancing.

Student well-being

We do appreciate that many students are likely to be anxious during these times. We will continue to support students using all the resources we have to help them feel comfortable about being in school. Please encourage them to talk to their skills coach or teachers if they are struggling. As always, you are welcome to contact us directly if you have any specific concerns.

We may have a tough few weeks ahead of us but despite everything, I am confident that together we can continue to provide a reassuring and safe environment for students to learn and thrive.

Thank you for your continued help and support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Paul Chambers
Principal
The Skills Hub