

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you regarding the return to onsite provision for students at the UTC. As you know, our absolute priority remains keeping our students and community safe. Students and staff are to be offered three onsite tests during the first 2 weeks of their return, with tests scheduled to be between 3 and 5 days apart. These will be lateral flow tests that return a result in 30 minutes. The tests are self-administered with staff at the UTC on hand to provide guidance and support. These tests will provide a key line of defence against potential outbreaks of Covid and play a role in keeping the community safe. We ask that parents/students provide consent by completing the online form provided by text. Some will not wish to give consent to testing and those children should still attend school for all sessions as we complete important preparations for the start of term.

Once three tests have been overseen on site we shall be moving to a system of testing at home, where by students are issued with a testing kit that they can then administer themselves at home. In the case of positive test at home, we ask the student to isolate and seek a further test.

Whilst these tests offer additional safety we are, still asking that everyone remains vigilant to the symptoms and to remain isolated should you be experiencing any of:

- The high temperature
- A new persistent cough
- A loss of taste or smell

In this instance, you should seek support from the NHS on 111.

**We will be implement some key Covid safety measures within the building to ensure that our community remains safe. These include:**

- The wearing of a face covering inside the building (unless exempt). This will include during lessons. The two main exceptions will be, whilst eating and when outside of the building.
- Students must bring their own face covering and may be denied entry to the building without.
- The following of the one-way system.
- The regular use of hand sanitizer. We now have the installed throughout the building to supplement those carried by students.
- The bubbling of year groups during lunch. **Year 12 will now have lunch from 1:20pm to 1:50pm** in order to allow further space during lunchtime and outside access for this year group.
- Teaching staff will be asked to wear a face covering when within close proximity to students.
- Students are asked to vacate the building at the earliest opportunity after their lessons/Detentions are complete. This includes quickly dispersing from the area close to the UTC.

We also ask that:

- Students wear appropriate clothing in line with the school uniform policy, for students in key stage 4 this this the issued polo shirts and for students in key stage 5, appropriate business wear, including collar and plain black trousers, skirts and footwear.
- Students are to bring all their own equipment, including stationary, as the UTC cannot lend these.
- Students consume all hot food purchased outside of the UTC, off site. Food purchased in the canteen and cold packed lunch is the only food permissible on site.

The plan for the return can be confirmed as:

| Day                                    | Year 10   | Year 11   | Year 12   | Year 13   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>     | <b>World book day activities – remotely</b>     |   |   |   |
| <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>     | Remote learning                                 | Test and Trace and Induction in UTC 9am to 11am | Remote learning   | Test and Trace and Induction in UTC 1 pm to 3pm                           |
| <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>    | Test and Trace and Induction in UTC 9am to 11am | Remote learning                                 | Test and Trace and Induction in UTC 1 pm to 3pm                           | Remote learning   |
| <b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b> | Remote learning                                 | Remote learning                                 | Remote learning   | Remote learning   |
| <b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | Remote learning                                 | Test and Trace and lessons 8:50am to 3:50pm     | Remote learning   | Test and Trace and lessons 8:50am to 3:50pm (as per individual timetable) |
| <b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>    | Test and Trace and lessons 8:50am to 3:50pm     | Remote learning                                 | Test and Trace and lessons 8:50am to 3:50pm (as per individual timetable) | Remote learning   |
| <b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>    | <b>Lessons as normal</b>                        |   |   |   |

This schedule allows for the safe and structured return of all students.

**We have updated the planned parents evening for this half term to:**

- **Year 11 Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 4pm to 7pm (via telephone)**
- **Year 13 Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 4pm to 7pm (via telephone)**

Staff will be reporting on student progress towards their data driven target grades and giving clear concise bullet points on how each student can improve. We will also be providing clarity on our planned end of year assessments and how they will look. These assessments will form a significant part of the centre assessed grades and should be treated in the same way as the GCSE and A-level examinations had they gone ahead. We will be providing further clarifications of the process and in particular the processes for the award of BTEC qualifications.

We will be putting together a full programme of support for students that includes Easter revision classes for students sitting their final examinations this summer. The dates of these sessions will be published as soon as we are able.

We very much look forward to seeing all our students back the UTC in the coming days as we return to a more normal way of working.

Kind Regards



Austin Sheppard

Principal