

12th March 2021,

Dear Parent,

It has been excellent to be able to welcome back so many of our young people into the building this week. It has been heartening to see them reconnect with their peers, teachers, and the building.

The initial rounds of COVID testing have been phenomenally successful with operations running very smoothly. This testing has given the whole community increased confidence to start lessons.

I have been particularly impressed with the mature attitude that all our students have shown to both testing and the COVID safety plan. It really is important that we remain vigilant to the risks and follow our plans, which includes:

- Wearing masks in the building, including during lessons (*Not those who are medically exempt)
- Following the one way system
- Using hand sanitizer regularly from the dispensers that are positioned throughout the building
- Dispersing quickly from the UTC at the end of the day
- Remaining socially distanced (2m) where possible

In addition, it is important to be aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 these remain:

- An elevated temperature or fever
- New persistent cough
- Loss of sense of smell or taste

Please do not come into the UTC if you are experiencing any of these and seek guidance via NHS 111. This link offers the latest information and advice. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>. Please report all absences to the UTC via 020 7738 6115.

We will be starting to issue tests for students, who have consented, to complete when they are at home from Thursday 18th March. Students will have completed three tests on site and are well placed to complete tests independently moving forward. In the case that the test returns a positive result, please contact the school to inform us. The student should not attend the UTC until they have had a negative result from a testing centre PCR test or have completed 10 days of isolation.

The UTC will be fully operational from Monday 15th March and beyond, with lessons beginning at 8:50am. All students should attend as normal, and all absences reported as normal.

If you have any questions regarding the reopening or anything else, please do get in touch.

Kind Regards,



Austin Sheppard

Principal