

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Students

Staff have spent the last two days working to put together a work plan and resources that can be delivered under these very different conditions.

Whilst what we will produce for you will develop over the coming months we do now have an outline for each subject studied. This will require work to be done on a broadly lesson-by-lesson basis. The work will be assessed and that teacher assessment will be very important for future teacher assessment grades and for student progression. Whilst we cannot pretend that this will be to the same depth and standard of our normal approach it will ensure our students continue to learn and develop. The take home message is that this is not a break from learning just a very different way of doing it for a while - take it seriously, be flexible in your thinking and cooperative; this is a challenge for us all so let's work at it together.

If any problems emerge personal tutors or teachers should be contacted; they will do what they can to resolve it but again everyone must remember that some of the resources normally available to them will not be there so some matters might have to be improvised a little but we will get there.

Until further notice the College main building will remain partially open with a skeleton staff on weekdays between 9:00 and 12:30. Some senior managers and support workers will be present, however, like you, the vast majority of staff are working remotely and so will not be on site or available for you to meet. If there was an exceptional reason for you to have to come to the College then that could be accommodated but we would ask that you refrain from doing this unless you really have to. If you need clarity on this contact jmg@bsfc.ac.uk

I want to stress that the College is not closed we have just largely moved on-line for a period of time. Our staff will continue to work to support the education of our students, to maintain our systems and our building and to plan for the future. When we come out the other end of this we will be able to get back up to speed within hours and I want all the students to be able to match that, so, learning must continue.

There will continue to be regular communication, students will receive multiple emails a day to support and guide their learning and provide materials and assessment feedback. I and others will give regular updates and we are also available to answer questions.

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In the meantime, take care of each other and look out for those who may be vulnerable or isolated. We remain a strong community and we will come out of this, perhaps with a greater appreciation of what really matters in life and an understanding that everything is better when we work together in a positive, thoughtful and considerate way.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MK', written in a cursive style.

Mike Kilbride
Principal