

Ref: AWS/SS/Student ref
3 July 2020



Dear Student, Parent/Carer,

Today, we come to the end of your first year at the College. This has been the most extraordinary year in my thirty-five year career in education. I am sure it has been a most extraordinary year for you, too. However, as we come to the end of this year, life outside our homes is slowly trying to return to a semblance of normality, and the Prime Minister has announced that from September, he would like it to return to a semblance of normality in education too.

In September, pupils in primary and secondary schools in England are expected to return on a full time basis to school. This is our ambition for you, too. A return to College on a full time basis. However, the safest way to do this, as advised by the DfE yesterday, is to create year group bubbles, with different start and finish times, different break and lunch times, and taught in different learning zones, to minimise contact between the different year groups, to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus. This is simply not possible with only two year groups, with over 1250 students in each.

The only way to minimise contact between our two year groups, to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus, is with a timetable model which reduces the number of students on site at any given time. So this is what we are planning for in September, a timetable model which reduces the number of students on site at any given time, through combining mostly learning at the College, with a small element of remote learning from home, supported by teachers. With a clear intent that the time spent learning in the classroom at the College will be increased to full time, as soon as it is safer to do so. With Kirklees identified as a top 10 hotspot for Covid 19, and a local lockdown still a genuine possibility, sadly this is not that time. This way forward is fully in line with the DfE guidance published yesterday, which recognised that for post 16 providers to welcome students back safely in September, an element of remote learning 'may need to be an essential component of delivery', alongside classroom teaching.

Before your return to College in September, we will be issuing you with a Student Guide, outlining in detail the full suite of safety measures in place at the College, to make our College a Covid 19 secure one, and with which we will need you to comply, to keep yourselves and others, as safe as possible on Campus. We will email you during the summer to let you know how to access this.

This year, you will be automatically enrolled for next year and if you are studying a GCSE resit within your programme, your Progress Tutor may contact you following the publication of GCSE results. Level 3 results publication day is Thursday 13th August and Level 2/GCSE results publication day is Thursday 20th August and your awarded grades will be available online, both days, via CEDAR from 8am. To help with this, we have extended the expiry of your college network account and password until the end of August 2020. You will need to take a note of your password and remember this so you can access CEDAR.

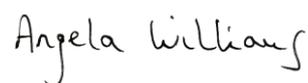
You will be able to access your new timetable for September on CEDAR on Thursday 3rd September at 1pm. Teaching for Year 13 will start on Monday 7th September, and you will be expected in College for your first classroom based lesson on your new timetable.

You will be aware from our social media channels, that we are already implementing a full suite of safety measures to make sure our College is a Covid 19 secure one for your return in September. Please be assured, these safety measures will conform fully with those announced by the DfE yesterday, for post 16 providers.

Until then, I would like to thank you personally for working with us so positively during the period of remote learning since March 19th. I would also like to thank your parents/carers for their support for you, and for us during this lengthy period of remote learning. I can speak confidently on behalf of the entire staff when I say we have very much appreciated this support.

Enjoy the summer break. Please continue to take care, stay safe and stay well. And we very much look forward to welcoming you back in person to the College in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Principal