



# PRINCIPAL'S DAILY BULLETIN

Dear all,

Firstly, a **big thank you**

I know that you are receiving an overwhelming amount of Covid 19 related information, from us, the local authority, and the government, which can be confusing and can seem contradictory – and I know that College life feels very different to what you experienced last year or what you may have expected to experience this year. I wish it could be different. But that is unlikely for at least the next 6 months. So I do really appreciate:

- Your patience with the changes we are asked as a College to put in place by the DfE or the government, sometimes overnight
- Your general good humour even with the most frustrating of these changes, such as the rule of 6
- Your compliance with the rules in place to keep everyone safe, sanitising hands, wearing masks on the move etc
- Your enthusiasm for your studies, as evidenced by your excellent attendance, even as we trial new ways of delivery from a 2 metre distance or virtual!

Please continue to be kind, to yourself, to others and to staff at the College. We are all trying our best in these trying times.

***Today, some important information we have been asked to share with you by the Government***

## **NHS Test and Trace – NHS Covid-19 app**

Today, NHS Test and Trace has launched the NHS COVID-19 app. The app has been launched to help control the spread of coronavirus (Covid-19). It will do this by alerting people who may have been exposed to infection so that they can take action.

The app is available to download on smartphones for anyone aged 16 or over. The Government is asking everyone to download this to help control the spread of Coronavirus. This useful guide summarises the key points and answers some common questions about how it works: <https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/pdf/parents-carers-over16s-factsheet.pdf>

You can visit [www.covid19.nhs.uk](http://www.covid19.nhs.uk) for full details

Please note downloading the app DOES NOT replace College Covid-19 procedures. If you have any symptoms of Covid-19 (a new, continuous cough, high temperature or a loss/change in taste or smell) you must:

- Immediately self-isolate, along with anyone you live with
- Book a test
- Inform us that you will be self-isolating, and stay at home until you receive your test result
- Tell us as soon as you receive your test result, so that if it is positive we can contact Public Health England for advice, or if it is negative, we can arrange for your return to College
- If you are contacted via the app and told that you need to self-isolate, then you must also stay at home and contact us to tell us this

## **Letter to parents and carers (and young people)**

The Government has also issued a public letter reminding of the importance of only booking a test, if you have Covid-19 symptoms, and about the self-isolation process. You can download a copy of this letter here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3djs9jd>

Angela





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## Local lockdown restrictions, and the rule of 6

Kirklees and Calderdale are both now subject to local lockdown restrictions. One of these local lockdown restrictions is that you cannot mix with anyone you do not live with, either inside or outside.

The government has made schools and Colleges exempt from this restriction, but it applies to you as soon as you leave the College Campus.

The College Campus ends at the end of the bus bay. As you move from here onto New Hey Road, please be aware you should not mix with anyone you do not live with.

You should also remember to respect a Social Distance of 2 metres from others .

And you must not under any circumstance gather in a group of more than 6 . This now brings with it a £200 fine.

Please be aware of these local and national restrictions when you leave the College Campus.

On Campus, we have adopted the rule of 6 in our dining areas: the Main Dining Area (Year 13) and Costa Café (Year 12). Seating in these dining areas has been arranged for Lunch Bubbles of up to 6, depending on the space available. We ask that you respect the seating arrangements in these areas, and that you stay with your lunch bubble whilst you eat your lunch. You should move on from the dining area when you have finished your lunch. You can move onto to the classroom for your next lesson, the LRC or a Study Hub. Or you can go outside for a breath of fresh air.

In line with national guidelines, you can remove your face mask when seated in a dining area to eat your lunch.

## Wearing face masks – new rules too

The Government has expanded where it is mandatory to wear a face mask. This now includes taxis. Our updated video provides a reminder of where you should wear a face mask when on the move to, from, or around College: <https://tinyurl.com/y2dzejt9>

If you think you are medically exempt from wearing a face mask, you must visit the Study Centre to request an exemption card. The fine for not wearing face masks, as required, has doubled to £200 too.

## College bus passes – a partial refund

Given the changes to the College timetable from Monday 28th September, and the requirement to be in College less, if you have purchased a bus pass for an NC bus service, you will receive a partial refund. You will be emailed directly regarding the arrangements for receiving this. If you are looking to purchase an NC bus pass, you will be able to do so at a reduced rate.

*Thank you for your support. We know that these are challenging times, with lots of changes to the Covid-19 safety rules, both locally and nationally.*

*However, these safety rules are vital to ensuring that we can stay safe together, and that is why we must all remember to follow these rules at all times.*

Angela

