

GET READY FOR YOUR RETURN

This bulletin contains important information about our return to College.

NC BUSES: AN ADDITIONAL SERVICE IF YOU HAVE A LESSON ONSITE ON A MONDAY AFTERNOON ONLY

All NC buses will run an additional service late on Monday morning for those students who do not have a lesson onsite on a Monday morning, but who do have a lesson onsite Monday afternoon.

When you arrive at College on this additional service you must go straight to your afternoon classroom. Here you can eat your packed lunch.

Pick up points remain the same and you can access the timetable for this additional service here: <https://tinyurl.com/3mxsuryf>

BUS PASSES

Termly bus passes have now expired. However, you will be able to travel to College on your expired termly bus pass for one extra week.

This will allow for information to follow about the cost of a new termly bus pass, and details about how you can purchase one via WisePay.

We strongly recommend before you purchase a pass that you check the number of days you will be onsite, and ensure that the termly bus pass is a more cost-effective option for you than pay as you go.

Yearly bus pass holders will still have a valid pass. You will be required to show this to your driver.

DEPARTURE TIMES & STAYING SAFE

All NC bus services depart promptly at 12.15pm each day. All students will be expected to be off site by this time UNLESS they have an onsite lesson on a Monday afternoon or need to access the College's IT facilities Tuesday-Thursday afternoons.

Departure times for the late afternoon bus services will then be as follows:

* 3.45pm for NC buses provided by B&H

* 4pm for NC buses provided by First Bus

All students will be expected to stay in their classroom or IT base until it is time to board the bus. This will support our social distancing measures, and ensure that you are warm, comfortable and safe until it is time to depart.

All students are reminded that face masks are compulsory on all College bus services.

NEW: 15 MINUTE BREAK DURING A THREE HOUR LESSON

Three hours of consecutive learning is a feature of our normal College timetable. This is not new. However, we appreciate that this is new to Year 12, who have not yet experienced our normal timetable. Therefore, following feedback from some of our Year 12 students and their parents/carers, we have asked all teachers to build a 15 minute break, at an appropriate point in the learning, into these three hour lessons. During this 15 minute break you will be able to go outside for some fresh air or stay in your well ventilated classroom. *Please note, if you choose to go outside, you must stay in your class bubble.*

The return to face to face teaching at the College is genuinely a welcome one, and a small but important step towards a more normal College experience. However, life outside College remains far from normal. We are still in the grips of the pandemic and so for this return we have chosen to continue to prioritise the safety of our students and staff in our mode of return.

We sincerely believe that this new timetable model is the best way to ensure the safety of our students and our staff on Campus until lockdown ends.

The current government roadmap suggests that we will exit lockdown on Monday 21st June. This is subject to a number of reviews, and to some key targets being met. Our academic year ends on Friday 28th May for Year 13 and Year 12 Level 2, and on Friday 2nd July for Year 12 Level 3, only 9 working days after the 21st. This is why we have chosen to maintain the new timetable to the end of the academic year. In these uncertain times this gives our Year 12 Level 3 students, and our staff, some certainty to the end of the year. If we exit lockdown before Monday 21st June, we can of course review this decision.

EVERY MIND MATTERS: NEW SUPPORT

As you will be aware, throughout this lockdown, we have provided a comprehensive range of mental health support for you. As we prepare for your return to College from Monday 8th March, this will feature some new support.

This starts this Friday with our Student Welfare drop in which will be themed around the return to College and the lockdown exit roadmap.



Check out the Student Welfare group for details of this drop in, and for the fantastic range of mental health support resources available.

Remember you can book individual appointments with the Student Welfare team or speak to your Progress Tutor, if you have any concerns you want to discuss in private.

We are here to support you, as and when you need us to.

