

15 June 2020

Reopening of schools and colleges

I hope you and your family are keeping well during these challenging times.

As you are probably aware, the government recently announced its ambition to partially reopen schools and colleges. This move is aimed at enabling students and apprentices to have some contact time with teachers, take part in practical training and assessments, and complete the parts of their qualification which cannot be replicated at home.

The College puts the safety and wellbeing of its students, apprentices and staff at the forefront of any decision it makes, including the date to reopen our campuses. We have been preparing for reopening for some time so that we can be sure that any return to College can be managed safely, adhering to guidance and social distancing protocols.

We are now in a position to plan to invite some students to return to the College for a short period of time to complete their course.

The number of students invited in will be relatively small and we do not plan to run a full timetable on site. Remote learning will remain in place alongside this to ensure all students complete their studies fully.

Which students will attend College?

The students we invite into College will be those who are least able to complete their studies remotely. We will inform this group and their parents/carers by email or phone, confirming the date they will return and the additional procedures they will need to follow. While we will encourage students to attend College if invited, those who are unable to attend due to their personal circumstances will still be able to study remotely.

Students who are not invited to attend College on campus will also continue to complete their studies remotely.

Links to the latest government guidance on COVID-19 in relation to educational settings can be accessed below:

[Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#)
[Supporting guidance on protective measures which should be implemented in education settings](#)

[Guidance for parents and carers](#)

We realise that we may need to adapt if the government and Public Health England advice changes and we will be putting plans in place to do this if necessary so that we can ensure we continue to offer a great teaching, learning and social experience for all our students. We will review this regularly and will only open if:

- All Government guidance can be met, in full.
- Individuals, College areas and work tasks have been risk assessed and appropriate mitigation measures are in place.
- Full consultation has taken place.
- The Principal, supported by the Executive Leadership Team and the College Board, authorises the action.

I would like to thank you for your continued support during this time.

Kind regards

Asfa Sohail
Principal, Lewisham College