Executive Principal: Post 16 Education: Mr D Holtham BSc (Hons)
Chair of Governors: Maurice Miller BComm FCA

Chief Executive Officer: Sir John Townsley BA (Hons) NPQH

6 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are well and I would like to wish you a Happy New Year.

As you will be aware, on Monday evening the Government announced a National lockdown in England. This has resulted in schools and colleges moving to remote provision to all students except for the children of critical workers and vulnerable young people until at least February half term.

Further guidance in relation to the classification of vulnerable young people and critical workers can be found by following the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision

I would like to reiterate our previous message that if your son/daughter falls into one of the above groups and would wish to attend the college to access remote lessons please email studentsupport@elliotthudsoncollege.ac.uk. This offer can be taken up at any point during the lockdown period.

I would also like to reiterate how remote lessons will operate during this period:

There will be an online Teams registration for all students at the start of each lesson:

- Year 13: 9.00am, 11.15am and 1.15pm
- Year 12: 10.00am, 12.15pm and 2.30pm

Break times, lunch times and the end of the day remain the same.

Where staffing allows, all students should expect to receive at least 2 hours of live teaching per day.

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Additional study will be limited to 2 hours a week to take into account the slower pace and higher level of demands of learning remotely. This will be set via Teams as usual.

Assemblies and Guidance Tutorials will continue to run remotely.

The college conduct system will also continue with students receiving conduct points and commendations as outlined in the student handbook. This will not only provide consistency but also allow us to monitor the progress of students.

We fully appreciate that students may be feeling anxious and overwhelmed at the lack of certainty at this current time. This will especially apply to those students who will have questions about examinations. The Government stated:

*"In the circumstances, we do not think it is possible for **all exams** in the summer to **go ahead as planned**. We will accordingly be working with Ofqual to consult rapidly to put in **place alternative arrangements** that will allow students to progress fairly."*

However, it remains important that students try their best each day and apply absolute focus to their studies. Until things become more certain, this is the best way to approach their studies and to keep a positive mindset. In addition, we are currently working on a plan with regards to the best way forwards for those students in Year 13 who were unable to sit their mock examinations in December. As soon as we have clarity on both, we will communicate this with you.

The Alliance Team will continue to support young people during this time. If you have any concerns about your son/daughter or another young person, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Head of Alliance, Progress Tutor or email the student support email account as outlined above. Further mental health support is available from the MindMate Support Team. Please speak to a member of the Alliance Team regarding this service. Furthermore, we will continue to update the studentsofehc Instagram account with useful links and resources to support student wellbeing during this time. Details of financial support can be found on the website https://www.elliotthudsoncollege.ac.uk/student-life/financial-support/

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding during these unprecedented times, it is much appreciated.

Kind regards

Rosie Quashie
Associate Vice Principal

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