

Letter to parents and carers

Dear Parent/Carer

We understand that this is a worrying time for everyone but we want to update you on the plans we have made to safeguard our learners during the Coronavirus situation.

As you will be aware by now, we made the decision to close our campuses at Coventry College to prevent the further spread of Covid-19. A national decision followed swiftly thereafter to close down all colleges from Friday 20th March until the foreseeable future.

Please be assured that during this period we are working hard remotely to ensure that learners have access to self-directed learning materials. We would ask for your support in directing your young person to access these materials in order to prevent as much disruption to their progress and achievement as possible. We are working tirelessly with our tutors and curriculum managers/leaders to ensure that learning continues as much as possible and learners have been guided already to communicate with their tutors.

We will be regularly updating our dedicated page www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/coronavirus with FAQs to provide guidance on arrangements around apprenticeships, Free School Meals, bursaries, exams, care plans and arrangements and more. We ask for your support and patience while we currently work with our authorities and government to source answers to some of these technical questions.

If your young person attends as part of our Life Skills provision then you will have already been contacted. If you have any further queries or concerns, please contact us on hello@coventrycollege.ac.uk.

We know that the government announced educational support for vulnerable learners and key workers yesterday. We are currently working with our agencies to look at how we can deliver teaching and learning to those learners who have a social worker and those with an educational health and care plan (EHCP).

We have made arrangements for our curriculum staff, and support staff, to stay in regular contact. If you have any further queries or concerns, please contact us on hello@coventrycollege.ac.uk. If you are a key worker – currently defined as health and care workers, supermarket delivery drivers and the police, please get in touch with us if you need any support on hello@coventrycollege.ac.uk.

We appreciate that in this time of ‘bulk-buying’ some families may not have the means to be able to provide meals at home in replace of Free School Meals offered to learners when on site at the College. The Government announced a voucher system to be set-up quickly. Should your young person be in receipt of Free School Meals then please bear with us while we work out arrangements – we will be in touch as soon as are able.

We will be continuing to operate our support services remotely. Our Safeguarding Team can be contacted via safeguarding@coventrycollege.ac.uk and all communications received into this mailbox will be picked up promptly.

You may have hopefully already seen that we had planned our first set of progress evenings to start next week. These will now be undertaken via telephone by our staff in order to continue with our usual plans as much as possible. We put our learners first in all that we do and we want to stick to our commitments to updating parents/carers on important milestones in this academic year.

Once again, we want to offer all of our support during this unsettling time and we appreciate that there may be further questions to be answered. We are available remotely and all enquiries can be directed to hello@coventrycollege.ac.uk where they will be picked up as soon as possible. We do ask for a level of patience while we work hard to maintain business continuity during this unplanned time.

With best wishes

Debi Donnarumma, Principal and Deputy CEO

Gill Banks, CEO

