

Dear HE Student

Following the government announcement on Monday 22 February 2021, HE students can start returning to face-to-face teaching on campus from Monday 8 March 2021 if they are studying practical or practice-based (including creative arts) subjects and require specialist equipment and facilities.

The College cannot ask HE students to return if their course can reasonably be continued online.

Your teachers will be in touch shortly to confirm your first day back at College during w/beg 8 March 2021, or they will confirm that your course will continue online until Easter. The government will review, by the end of the Easter holidays, the options for timing of those students who will continue to work online.

Those returning w/beg 8 March 2021 will be offered a Covid-19 lateral flow test on your first day back at college. Information about the lateral flow test and the [privacy notice is attached](#). Please make sure you read this thoroughly. You will be given a [consent form](#) to sign before you have a lateral flow test. This, along with the [swab instructions](#) are attached. Testing is voluntary but strongly encouraged. The College will continue to offer you a Covid-19 lateral flow test each week for the first three weeks back at College, and then home testing kits will be supplied for you to carry out weekly testing at home.

If you do not consent to a Covid-19 lateral flow test, you are expected to return to College on the date you are given. The only exception to attending in person is if you have received a shielding letter or have been provided with medical advice that prevents you from returning. If this is the case, please ensure you provide this information to your teacher as soon as possible.

Please remember you must not come into the College if:

- you have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
- a member of your household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
- you are required to isolate because you have been told to do so by NHS Test and Trace or you have returned from overseas.
- you have had a positive Covid-19 test.

If you are unsure whether you should attend in person or not, please talk to your teacher before coming into college.

If you do have a positive Covid-19 lateral flow test result, you will need to self-isolate in line with the government's stay-at-home guidance. Those with a negative test result can continue to attend college unless they have individually been advised otherwise by NHS Test and Trace or Public Health professionals.

The Covid-19 protective measures in place during the autumn term remain in force. Please wear your ID badge at all times as this identifies you as a student enrolled at the College.

In addition to our previous measures, you will be asked to wear a face-covering when indoors, including in all classes. The only exceptions to this are where a face-covering impacts your ability to take part in strenuous activities/exercise or if you are exempt from wearing a face-covering according to the government definitions. You will also be asked to undertake more frequent handwashing and sanitising, for example moving from room to room inside, as well as on entry and exit to buildings.

The [Covid-19 Code of Conduct has been updated and is attached](#). Please make sure you re-read and follow the code before your return to College.

The next step is for your teacher to confirm if you return w/beg 8 March or you continue online. They will be in touch soon. We look forward to welcoming you back.

With thanks

David Williams  
Principal