Highlands College Coronavirus (COVID-19)

January 2021 Summary



We appreciate that you will have received multiple communications from us as the Island's response to the pandemic has evolved, particularly over the past couple of weeks, and so we thought it might provide clarity if we summarised some of the more recent changes.

Please be advised that we added a 'Coronavirus update' section to our website where you will always be able to access our most up to date information.

- Welfare and support: students should speak to their tutor or contact Student Life (located in Café Connect) if they have concerns or need any support, including for social and financial issues for essential resources. We do know what a challenging and unsettling time this could be. Students can also access the 'Kooth Online Community for Young People' a free, safe and anonymous online service providing support for mental health and wellbeing: https://www.kooth.com
- Attendance: this is mandatory from Monday 11th January, unless students have extenuating circumstances as outlined in the enclosed letter.
- **On-line learning**: lessons that are timetabled to be online are just as important as the ones attended in College. The content is essential, and attendance is required and monitored.
- **Mask wearing**: it is compulsory for apprentices to wear masks at all times, in all parts of the College grounds (except when eating/drinking). For other students, masks are to be worn in communal areas e.g. corridors. It is strongly recommended that students wear their masks in classes/workshops.
- **Control measures**: the College has completed a workplace safety plan and site specific risk assessments; these include the usage of hand sanitisers; one way systems and increased ventilation in classrooms.
- **Cafe Connect update**: a service is still in place, but this is takeaway only. Students may wait in classrooms during breaks and lunch, though they are not supervised, and are asked to follow Health and Safety procedures and behave appropriately.
- What to do if you suspect your son/daughter might have CV-19? Keep them at home, phone the helpline on 445566, let college know on 608608.
- **Exam update**: in most cases, the College uses the same awarding bodies as England and will follow decisions made there. We are awaiting further guidance and will update you as soon as we have definitive answers about the calculation of grades and exams.

Contact info: please ensure that your contact information is up to date as it may be necessary for us to communicate with you on occasion. This is usually done in one of three ways: by telephone, by email, or by post.