

**CORONAVIRUS – COVID-19
LETTER TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

24 March 2020

Dear Student and Parent

As previously communicated we have worked tirelessly to ensure remote working and learning can take place. Clearly, this is easier for some courses than others. We will continue to do our utmost to ensure that our students make progress, and we ask for your patience over the coming weeks, as we embed recently developed systems and processes to enable this to happen on this scale.

It is absolutely clear that every child or young person who can be safely cared for at home should be.

The restrictions that the Prime Minister announced last night further reinforces the seriousness of this situation. I want to take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

You should only leave your home for the following reasons:

- Shopping for basic necessities such as food and medicine. Shopping trips should be as infrequent as possible
- One form of exercise a day such as a run, walk or cycle. This should be done alone or only with people you live with
- Any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person. This includes moving children under the age of 18 between their parents' homes, where applicable
- Travelling to and from work, but only where work absolutely cannot be done from home

Even when following the above guidance, people should minimise the amount of time spent out of their homes and should keep two metres (6ft) away from people they do not live with

Site Closure

As a result of the above restrictions and the work we have undertaken to support our most vulnerable students, we are now in a position to be able to safely close all college sites. All necessary support is in place for our vulnerable learners. Staff have worked exceptionally hard over the last few days to provide the following:

- Over 300 Chromebooks have been issued to assist with remote learning
- Various supermarket vouchers for those accessing free college meals and who need this to continue
- Exceptional financial support for those in need
- Food parcels for collection
- Internet for those that do not have any way of accessing Google Classroom

All college sites will be closed from 3pm Tuesday 24 March 2020. At this point we do not know when we will be able to re-open, as soon as it is safe to re-open we will. You will be unable to contact us using the college reception telephone number.

If you require any support you have a range of options:

1. Your teaching staff – via Google Classroom (PRC Students) or Canvas (UCP Students) or via email
2. General enquiries – information@peterborough.ac.uk
3. Safeguarding Concerns - Safeguarding.team@peterborough.ac.uk

Finally, please keep yourselves safe and comply with the government restrictions. This is going to be a difficult and challenging time but we can get through it by supporting each other and those in our communities and by being patient and kind to one another.

Remember – Stay At Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives!

Keep safe.

Best Wishes
Rachel

Rachel Nicholls
Acting Principal
Peterborough Regional College
Park Crescent
Peterborough
PE1 4DZ
Tel: 0345 8728722
www.peterborough.ac.uk