

## **LETTER TO UCP STUDENTS**

**22 May 2020**

Dear Student

You will be aware that following the Prime Minister's statement and government updates since, that schools and colleges should plan to open from 1 June in a phased way. In his message, the Prime Minister specified a range of year groups, including those in years 10 and 12, with a focus on those taking exams in the following academic year.

We have been working hard on plans for a gradual and phased return of our FE students and staff with a focus on those who cannot achieve their qualifications or progress to the next level without some face to face support or assessment. We will only start this when we feel it is safe to do so. At this stage we have been able to offer alternative assessments to higher education students.

Because there is a lot of preparation needed to make our buildings safe, instigate social distancing measures and prioritise which students need our support to achieve this year, **we will not invite any students into college buildings until 15 June at the earliest and the focus will be on any HE students who need to complete practical re-sit tasks or vocational units in the Higher National Pearson provision. Your course leaders will contact you individually to let you know if you need to return before September, how this will work and what special arrangements will be in place.**

In the meantime, we hope that you are able to continue learning remotely and you are in regular contact with your Course Leaders and tutors about next steps, whether that is continuation on your current course or progression to the next level, post-graduate education or employment.

To summarise

- There will be small-scale activity on-site June/July focused on students who need to complete practical assessments, those whose parents are key workers, vulnerable learners and those who need specific one-to-one advice and support - but this will be a small number only
- We are putting in place robust measures to facilitate social distancing, hygiene, and personal protection regimes, underpinned by a detailed and robust risk assessment
- Remote learning remains the preferred method of study and we are seeking your views on how to enhance this. We will continue to consult with you as we develop our delivery plans for September.

It is important than you continue to look after your mental health and wellbeing, as well as your physical health. The UCP website contains lots of information on wellbeing, welfare and general information on physical, mental and spiritual health. You can access this by clicking the link; <https://www.ucp.ac.uk/news/coronavirus-covid-19-update/>.

Finally, please continue to keep yourselves safe and comply with the government restrictions. This continues to be a difficult and challenging time, but we can get through it by supporting each other and those in our communities who need it.

We will continue to update you via our website, emails and social media.

Best Wishes

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