



1 March 2021

Dear Apprentice,

Following the recent Government update on 22nd February, we are delighted that you will be able to return to face-to-face teaching in the coming weeks. The Government has now confirmed that schools and colleges can return to face-to-face learning from 8th March, and we are currently working with St Helens College in planning for a safe return to campus for all our apprentices.

You will be aware that schools and colleges are required to test returning students for COVID-19. While testing is not compulsory, we would like to strongly encourage you to engage in this initiative, and we will be offering you all the opportunity to be tested before you return to the classroom or workshops. We will also be providing home testing kits for you to undertake tests at home.

Testing facilities will be in place at the STEM Centre Campus from Friday 5th March, and we will send you information on how to book a test in the coming days.

Testing is proven to be effective, especially for those who are asymptomatic. Getting tested helps to stop the spread of COVID-19 to your family and friends.

As part of planning the safe reopening of campuses, it's likely this will be phased over the next two to three weeks to facilitate the testing process and to ensure we keep all staff and students as safe as possible during this transition. We will provide more details about start dates in the coming days, and College Tutors will also communicate directly with you regarding your return dates.

It is likely that some adult programmes and higher education courses will continue with remote learning for a short period of time, and this is likely to include HNC and HND classes, but your College Tutors will provide the details of when you will return for your day release.

At this time, and until advised differently, you should continue to access your classes remotely as per your current timetables and arrangements with your tutors.

We have been informed that following new guidance, and currently until the Easter holidays, face coverings will now be mandatory in all classrooms and communal areas, including workshops. You must wear a face covering while on campus.



Apprentices who are exempt should continue to carry and display their exemption cards.

We will issue further updates to you as soon as we have more detailed information to share with you. However, if you have any questions or concerns at all regarding the above or your return to college, then please do not hesitate to contact us at: kkirby@waterside-training.co.uk or 0772 055 4932.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Callaghan
Managing Director
Waterside Training Limited