 clip_image008

**NELSON & COLNE COLLEGE GROUP**

**REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION 2021-22:**

**INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

This statement is intended to provide information to students and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education.

**16-19 Learners**

**Remote Education for Whole-College Closure or Entire Cohorts Studying from Home**

Where there is a local or national lockdown or contingency requiring students to remain at home, Nelson and Colne College Group (NCCG) will offer them access to remote education. The remote learning offered will be of high-quality and aligned as closely as possible with in-college provision.

Wherever possible, lessons will be delivered via Microsoft Teams at the same times as on the normal college timetable. Students will be invited to join these sessions via their Microsoft Teams calendar.

Teachers will remain on Teams for the duration of the lesson for 1:1 tutorials or to answer questions while students complete any work set. EBS registers will be completed to record attendance in remote lessons. Students who have in-class support with Learning Support Assistants will continue to receive this through Teams lessons.

Both teachers and students will be issued with a set of expectations and guidance in relation to remote lessons.

Over the course of a week, and where practicable, online lessons will provide:

* Meaningful and challenging work provided in all subject areas
* Frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered live or through previously prepared videos or PowerPoints with a voiceover
* Opportunities to monitor student progress through questioning, retrieval practice tests/quizzes and other assessments
* Feedback to students on completed assignments or tasks using digitally facilitated methods or whole-class feedback where appropriate
* Opportunities for students to complete some of the lesson activities independently
* Support for students during lessons through the use of the Chat and Breakout Room functions on Microsoft Teams
* The use of Moodle and/or Teams for the setting of weekly independent learning tasks
* Systems for checking whether students are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern.
* To make the learning experience more engaging, as well as make it easier to check levels of understanding, students will be asked to:
  + Answer questions or contribute to class discussions using their microphone where possible
  + Move into virtual breakout rooms using the Breakout Room function on Teams
  + Turn on their cameras, and use the Together Mode function on Teams
  + Respond to live quizzes and questions using e.g. Kahoot, Quizizz or Microsoft Forms/Quizzes
  + Access resources that are sent prior to the session to prepare and engage with lesson content
  + Complete necessary independent study and access resources available to ensure that they are clear of session content

**Exceptions to the Remote Learning Offer**

In order to ensure that all students can continue with learning, in the case of a regional or national lockdown, vulnerable students will be required to continue learning onsite, where it is appropriate for them to do so. This is because NCCG recognises that for these groups of students, independent remote learning may be challenging and by attending on site they can gain the educational and wellbeing benefits available.

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

* are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
* have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
* have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children’s social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  + children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children’s social care services or in the process of being referred to children’s services
  + adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
  + those at risk of becoming NEET (‘not in employment, education or training’)
  + those living in temporary accommodation
  + those who are young carers
  + those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
  + care leavers
  + others at the provider and local authority’s discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

**Remote education for individual learners required to isolate**

In the academic year 2021-22, it is anticipated that it will be individual students required to isolate, rather than whole groups or the whole college in case of a lockdown. Individual students will have to isolate following government guidance:

Students should also self-isolate straight away if:

* They have tested positive for COVID-19 – this means you have the virus
* Someone they live with has symptoms or tested positive
* They’ve been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive

However, most of the students at NCCG will NOT need to isolate as they will fit into one of the following categories:

* They are fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since their final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
* They under 18 years, 6 months old
* They are taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
* They are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Therefore, the most common reason for learners needing to isolate is if they test positive for COVID themselves. In this situation, the college has a process in place, which has been shared with students, to ensure that they can continue with their education. Students must phone the college absence line before 8.30am and also inform their course tutors who will then ensure that they are included in learning activities. Unless the student is ill with symptoms, it is expected that they will engage in lessons as per their college timetable. It may not always be appropriate to keep students in dial in lessons (depending on the nature of the lesson). In these cases, work will be set in an asynchronous way. Each teacher will set specific work for each lesson and will record this on Pro-monitor. The student’s tutor will hold a weekly review meeting to check progress against completion and set up SMART targets.

**Support for Students without Devices**

Before the second national lockdown, NCCG purchased a substantial number of college laptops to distribute to students and staff who do not have an adequate device.

Students who require a laptop or Mifi device need to contact their tutor who will request it on their behalf. Students who are entitled to the financial bursary and/ or who have ALS needs will be prioritised.