

1 October 2021 – Update for GC students and parents/carers

Dear all,

I hope this finds you all well. Please find below a number of updates.

Wellbeing update

If any student requires any extra support with their wellbeing, could I encourage them to look at some of the many different sources of internal and external support available, to see what would work best for them. Students should talk to their Personal Tutor about how to access these services.



Counselling Service

THE COLLEGE COUNSELLING SERVICE IS...

- Therapy
- Confidential
- 1-2-1
- Talking
- Non Judgmental
- In College

Look at the counselling rooms and meet the College Counsellors on the counselling moodle page



MoodMaster

THE MOODMASTER PROGRAMME IS...

- Strategies
- Learning
- Small groups
- Techniques
- Non Judgmental
- In College

See what other students think about the MoodMaster Programme on the MoodMaster Moodle Page



CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

A CAMHS REFERRAL IS...

- Through the NHS
- Outside of College

Did you know if you live in Kirklees you can refer yourself on the Thriving Kirklees website?



GP APPOINTMENT

- A medical assessment of your need

It's not always easy to start a conversation about your personal feelings with your GP, someone you may hardly know. Go to the Wellbeing page on moodle and select 'talking to your GP' for a guide on how to do this.

Enrichment fees

As you may be aware, some of our enrichment activities have a fee attached to them. Could students please pay their enrichment fee via Wisepay on Moodle. (Students should be aware if their chosen enrichment requires a fee, as it will have stated the price during the signing-up process.)

Music concert

Can I remind students and parents/carers that the College will be presenting an evening of music featuring our A Level Music soloists. This will be taking place at Holy Trinity Church on **Thursday, 7 October** at **7.30 pm**. Tickets are £5.00 for adults (£3.00 concessions) and can be purchased through Wisepay.

Parents' information evening

Can I thank parents/carers for their attendance and participation in Tuesday's information evening. For those who were unable to attend, here is the link to the [recording of the event](#).

Reunion event for students who left in 2021

This year, we feel it would be a good idea to give students who left this summer the opportunity to collect their A Level certificates in person from College and tie this in with a reunion event, giving them the opportunity to meet old friends and talk to College staff.

We have arranged for this event to take place on **Tuesday, 14 December** between **4.15 pm** and **6.00 pm**. A buffet and refreshments will also be provided. For those unable to attend, we will post certificates out in early January 2022.

Following the reunion event, the College will be holding its annual **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** at the **Holy Trinity Church** at **7.30 pm**.

A booking form will shortly be sent to our former students in order to obtain some idea of numbers. Clearly, should COVID-19 restrictions prevent the event from going ahead, we will contact attendees as soon as possible.

Next summer's exams (for A2 students and parents/carers ONLY)

On Thursday, the Department for Education published information and guidance concerning next summer's A Level exams.

This document contains a [broad overview](#) of the exam arrangements for next year.

This more detailed document is a joint consultation published by Ofqual and the Department for Education on the [proposed changes to the assessment of A Levels in 2022](#).

Finally, this document shows the [contingency arrangements for the awarding of A Levels should exams not run next summer](#).

COVID-19 updates

i) Latest COVID-19 figures

Week ending 1 October 2021	Total
Number of students with confirmed COVID-19	12
Number of students self-isolating	26
Number of staff with confirmed COVID-19	1
Number of staff self-isolating	0

ii) Face coverings

Could I also reemphasise my **strong recommendation** that students should wear a face covering in enclosed spaces. This is especially important as the weather has now started to turn much colder.

iii) Isolation – frequently asked questions

Students and parents/carers may be interested in this guide to the [current arrangements for isolation in schools and colleges](#).

iv) Online booking service for COVID-19 vaccine

The Department of Health and Social Care announced last Friday that all 16-and-17-year-olds can now book their first COVID-19 vaccination appointment online.

Young people in this age group can:

- [Book their COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) for an appointment at a vaccination centre or pharmacy;
- [Find a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site](#) to get vaccinated without needing an appointment.

If students cannot book appointments online, they can call 119 free of charge.

I hope everything continues to go well with students' studies.

Very best wishes to you all,
Simon