

**15 October 2021 – Update for GC students and parents/carers**

Dear all,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. Incredibly, we have almost reached half-term, which has come round very quickly! I hope everything continues to go well for our students. Once again, can I reiterate that should students or parents have any wellbeing or welfare related concerns, please speak to the Personal Tutor or email [safeguarding@greenhead.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@greenhead.ac.uk).

Here are this week's messages:

**Open events**

This Saturday we will be running our main open morning for prospective students from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Can I thank all those students who have offered to help during this event.

For information, we have two further open events – one on Thursday, 4 November and the other on Tuesday, 30 November, both 5.30-8.30 pm.

**Music events**

Last Friday saw 'The Big Gig' take place in College – our first live music event at Greenhead for almost 20 months. There was a superb atmosphere in the hall and our performers were all exceptional. [Highlights of the gig](#) can be found via this link.

In addition, The Music department, in collaboration with the 'Piano Music Festival', presented their A Level Performance Evening at the Holy Trinity Church last Thursday. Here is a [recording of the concert](#).

Finally, here some short highlights from the Greenhead College Big Band [performing at the Marsden Jazz Festival](#).

Many thanks to all our wonderfully-talented performers and our Music staff.

**Period products**

Period products, such as pads, tampons and reusable products, are now available in the female toilets for all students who need them so that they can access their education, e.g. if students start their period unexpectedly or cannot afford products. Please ask at the front office if the specific product required cannot be found and they will deal with the enquiry discretely.

**COVID-19 updates**

Latest COVID-19 figures

Week ending 15 October 2021	Total
Number of students with confirmed COVID-19	20
Number of students self-isolating	32
Number of staff with confirmed COVID-19	4
Number of staff self-isolating	0

Joint Letter from the Secretaries of State for Education and Health and Social Care

I have been asked to share this [letter from the Secretaries of State for Education and Health and Social Care](#) with you. The letter provides information on COVID-19 testing and advises that, in response to potential outbreaks, local health teams may advise additional testing and isolation protocols at the College.

For example, if a student is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, they may be asked to take daily LFD tests, while they wait for their PCR test result. In this scenario, they should continue to attend College as long as their LFD test results remain negative.

Alongside the letter are some [frequently answered questions for parents/carers](#), from Dr Mary Ramsay, Head of Immunisation at the UK Health Security Agency.

Best wishes to you and your families,

Simon