

**18 March 2022 – Update for GC students and parents/carers**

Dear all,

I hope this week has gone well for all our students. Here are this week's messages:

**Assessments and support**

On Thursday, we released mock exam results to our second-years. In the absence of GCSE exams running in 2020, this would have been the first opportunity for many of our A2 students to undertake an assessment in formal exam conditions. Well done for getting through these assessments, which I hope went smoothly and successfully for everyone. Our teaching staff will now be going through mock exam results and giving feedback and guidance on how students can improve their performance in readiness for exams this Summer. Remember, the mock grades are there as a guide and it's not the end of the world if they weren't in line with expectations.

Can I encourage students to listen to their teachers' advice and to avail themselves of any further support sessions in the coming weeks and months. We will continue to work hard to ensure our A2s are fully-prepared for external exams and our first-years are well-equipped to tackle their progress assessments after the Easter break. If any student is concerned about their progress, can I encourage them to talk to their teachers and Personal Tutor. We are always here to help!

Additionally, students may wish to come along to our '**Pffft... What's the fuss? Managing Exam Anxiety!**' workshops. In these sessions we will focus on how to manage exam stress and anxiety around exam season. We will also look at how to break the cycle of panic around exams and tests, and build confidence.

Drop into C2 in Additional Learning Support on Monday lunchtimes to join these workshops and to find out more. The sessions will start on **Monday, 21 March**.

**Ofsted inspection**

At the time of writing, our Ofsted inspection is still in full-swing. Can I take this opportunity to thank all our students for the exemplary way they have conducted themselves this week. They have been a real credit to the College.

I will be able to share the outcome of our inspection with students and parents/carers in due course.

**'Comic Relief – Red Nose Day'**

On Thursday, we celebrated 'Red Nose Day' at Greenhead College. I am very pleased to report that we raised **£500.00** on the day.

Can I thank our students and staff for donating so generously to this very worthy cause. Your money will go a long way to tackling poverty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has made many people's lives harder across the UK and around the world.

In addition, the organisers of Comic Relief are extremely concerned about the deteriorating and ongoing situation in Ukraine. As the conflict intensifies, civilians are increasingly at risk. Comic Relief is working with its partners to ensure people's Red Nose Day donations can support citizens to flee the war in Ukraine and also support people in other parts of the world affected by poverty, injustice and discrimination.

Here are some photos from the day:



Many thanks to Ian Kennedy and Emily Thompson for these images

## **Subject Monitoring (L-Z) – A2 STUDENTS ONLY**

A reminder that the second of our subject monitoring days will be taking place on Monday, 21 March for second-year students (surnames L-Z). First-year students and A2s with surnames A-K will be set work to do on this day.

## COVID-19 update

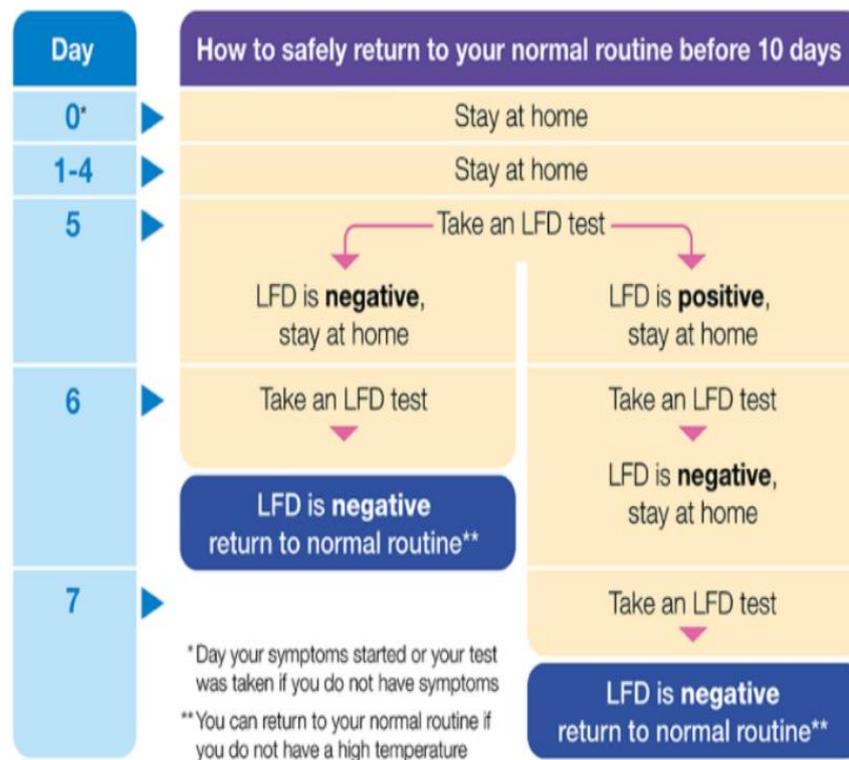
Here are the latest figures for the week ending 18 March 2022:

- Number of students with confirmed COVID-19 51
- Number of staff with confirmed COVID-19 9

The number of students and staff testing positive with COVID-19 has increased. (Last week, the figures were 12 for students with confirmed COVID-19 and 2 for staff.)

Therefore, can I remind students and parents/carers that the public health advice is for people to stay at home for at least five days if testing positive and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days. Therefore, whilst testing remains available, I strongly advise all students to follow this guidance which will enable everyone in our College community to remain safe.

Here is a reminder of the process in the form of an info-graphic:



As ever, please use our absence line – [absences@greenhead.ac.uk](mailto:absences@greenhead.ac.uk) – to report a student absence. If you remain well enough to work from home, and you can, please contact your teacher to ensure you have access to live-streamed lessons on Microsoft Teams and/or a recording of the lesson.

Please note that where there is a confirmed or suspected case of a student or member of staff attending College having tested positive for COVID-19, the College reserves the right to ask them to work from home until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days. This is to protect other students and staff from possible infection.

Very best wishes to all students and their families,

Simon