



Monday 15 November 2021

Welcome

As we move into winter, I hope that your young person feels as though they have now fully settled into College life and has found positive routines for completing their structured learning and homework. The work on our new Independent Learning Centre (ILC) is making excellent progress and is on schedule for an Easter opening. In the run up to Christmas, the College Community team have a number of events and activities planned for the students to get everyone in the festive mood.

Nick Clark, Principal

Review meetings

There will be an opportunity for parents and students to discuss their progress at a Review Meeting with each teacher in December. Details about how these will be conducted and instructions about booking appointments will be emailed to you nearer the time and booking will start on **Monday 29 November**. The focus of these meetings will be target setting for improvement, which the students will have contributed to beforehand.

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

We continue to follow Government guidance and appreciate the reiteration of key messages including:

- Regularly washing hands and sanitising when entering buildings/classrooms
- Strongly recommending wearing face coverings in high volume indoor areas such as the Refectory, Independent Learning Centre (ILC), Learning Support, Careers and Reception
- Remembering that classrooms and workspaces will be well ventilated and to dress accordingly
- Undertaking bi-weekly lateral flow device (LFD) testing using the home test kits provided by the College

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that students **must not come into College if they are displaying symptoms of [coronavirus](#)**. In these cases, students should self-isolate and book a PCR test.

If someone in the household tests positive for Covid-19, students should get a PCR test. If the test result is negative, they may continue to attend College, although they should take additional precautions such as:

- Wearing a face covering (unless exempt)
- Socially distancing themselves where possible
- Taking regular or daily LFD tests

Sickness

Attendance is critical to success at College. For every 5% of lessons missed, a student will on average lose a whole grade per subject. However, students **should not attend College if they are feeling unwell**, particularly in the current climate. We are very conscious that the winter months bring with them lots of coughs and colds, which do not present with symptoms of coronavirus. Therefore, it is important you adhere to Government guidance (above) when assessing an illness.

All absences must be authorised by a parent/guardian and notified via the **Student Data** area of the [Parent Portal](#).

If a student is unwell with coronavirus symptoms, due to the seriousness of the illness, you must notify the College directly via attendance@reigate.ac.uk.

Any letters, appointment cards or anything else relating to absence must be handed directly to **Reception** and absences not covered by the above must be notified to attendance@reigate.ac.uk. Parents can monitor attendance in lessons using the Parent Portal.

Health records update

The College is currently updating student health records and would appreciate if you could let us know about any students who are immune suppressed. For example, following transplant surgery or certain treatments such as chemotherapy. Please contact Student Services via 01737 221118 or email: studentservices@reigate.ac.uk.

Relate Counsellor

A Relate Counsellor is available to students both in College and at the local office in Reigate. If students wish to make an appointment, they can do so by emailing relate@reigate.ac.uk.

Contingencies for A Level and GCSE examinations

You may have read in the press about contingencies in case Covid-19 spikes prevent formal A Level and GCSE examinations taking place. The College will send out a letter to all students impacted by this in the near future.

Refectory prices

As you will be aware, the cost of everyday products including food and drink has risen significantly over the past year. The College has absorbed as many of these costs as possible to ensure it continues to offer an excellent range of food at affordable prices. However, the most recent round of inflation has meant that we must now reluctantly raise the price of some of the products on offer to avoid making a loss. These rises will commence on **Monday 29 November**.

Incident in local area

The College would like to make you aware of an isolated incident where one of our students was approached by a member of the public on a train. The person was overly friendly and was harassing the student, which came as a shock. Ensuring students are confident in knowing what to do in these circumstances is something we shall be covering in the Tutorial programme later this term. However, it would be useful to make your son/daughter/young person aware of this and encourage them to remain vigilant on journeys to and from College and to seek help if they feel threatened or intimidated.

Careers

UCAS

The College UCAS deadline is **Friday 26 November**. Applications that have been completed correctly and submitted by this date will be processed by the Careers Department and sent to UCAS before the official national UCAS deadline of 26 January 2022.

The following sessions are still being run in Careers (upstairs in Enhancement Building) and will be run up to and including, the week commencing 22 November:

- Tuesdays and Thursday from 1.00pm – 2.00pm: Personal Statement Feedback Sessions
- Wednesdays from 1.30pm – 2.15pm: UCAS Drop-in Sessions

Applying for Apprenticeship and Employment

On Mondays and Friday between 1.30pm and 2.15pm, the Careers Department is running Apprenticeship and Employment Workshops in Careers.

The Careers Bulletin

The Department encourage all parents, as well as students, to look at the weekly bulletin. It is emailed directly to students every Monday and can be viewed on our website here: <https://www.reigate.ac.uk/latest-careers-bulletin>.

Diary dates

What	When	Details
Rock out of Lockdown 2021	Wednesday 24 November	Visit the College Box Office for details
Winter Concert 2021	Thursday 2 December	Visit the College Box Office for details
Hot Feet 2021	Tuesday 7 & Wednesday 8 December	Visit the College Box Office for details
Review Day 1	Monday 13 December	Staff available for consultation. Details to follow
Review Day 2	Tuesday 14 December	Staff available for consultation. Details to follow
Start of Christmas Holidays for students	Wednesday 15 December	
Last day for staff	Friday 17 December	
Start of Spring Term	Tuesday 4 January	
Structured Learning Day 2	Thursday 20 January	Students study independently at home
Get Ahead Day (Structured Learning Day for Upper Sixth)	Tuesday 1 February	Upper Sixth students study independently at home
Half Term	Monday 14 – Friday 18 February	
Upper Sixth Mock Examinations	Monday 21 – Thursday 24 February	
Structured Learning Day 3	Friday 25 February	Students study independently at home
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 1 April	
Start of Summer Term	Wednesday 20 April	