

## **Principal's Statement 18th March 2020**

Dear all,

Further to recent communications regarding the coronavirus pandemic, I'm now writing to confirm that the College is implementing special measures for the last two weeks of term and the spring break.

The safety and wellbeing of our staff and students is the College's utmost priority, and the current impact of staff and student absence is such that the Executive feel it necessary to reduce the activity taking place on site whilst staffing levels are compromised. We are confident that this decision will also be instrumental in safeguarding our college community and slowing the spread of coronavirus.

The College will move to online learning for all classroom-based students for the final two weeks of term, with face-to-face lessons ceasing at the end of today's timetabled lessons (Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March). The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) remains accessible to all students and we encourage you to use the next two weeks to access the online learning resources ahead of the summer term and any exams and other assessments for your course.

We intend to recommence classes in line with the published summer term dates (w/c 20<sup>th</sup> April), which effectively means a restricted period of two weeks as the following two weeks are the College's scheduled spring break.

We will continue to write to you over the coming weeks with key updates, including planning around the beginning of the summer term. Please ensure you check your college email regularly in order to stay up to date with the latest information. We will also continue to post updates via our website and social media channels.

### **Online Learning**

- The VLE remains accessible at the following link: <https://my.liv-stu.co.uk/> and you should log in as usual with your student username and password. Should you experience any difficulties logging in, you can contact the helpdesk at [helpdesk@liv-coll.ac.uk](mailto:helpdesk@liv-coll.ac.uk).

### **Distance Support Services**

- The College will be making every effort to ensure students are still able to access key support and wellbeing services, by telephone or email, whilst the College is closed.
- You can continue to access additional support using the [external services in attached list](#). We will also be [updating the website to provide the links directly](#).

In addition, we ask that you please take the time to remind yourself of the following important information:

**Government advice:**

Government advice continues to change as the situation develops, but some of the key messages remain the same: make sure you're washing your hands more frequently with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds; be sure to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues and avoid non-essential contact with others via physical distancing.

If you become unwell and suspect you may have coronavirus (a temperature of 37.8 or higher, or a new, continuous cough), you should immediately self-isolate for a period of 7 days. You do not need to contact NHS 111 to self-isolate, but if your symptoms worsen you should seek further medical advice and support via NHS 111, preferably online. You are asked not to go directly to your GP or any other healthcare provider before taking advice from NHS 111, to help restrict the spread of the virus. In an emergency, call 999.

**Department for Education Coronavirus Helpline:**

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions from staff, students, parents and guardians about coronavirus relating to education. The helpline is available from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, on 0800 046 8687.

Again, please be assured that the College is doing everything possible to limit the impact of coronavirus on our staff and student body, in line with Public Health England and the Department for Education guidance.

Best wishes,

Elaine

Elaine Bowker

Principal & Chief Executive

**The City of Liverpool College Group**