

You will all be aware of further developments regarding the spread of COVID-19, not least of which includes its new classification as a pandemic. The safety and wellbeing of our community is our priority. The College is actively monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, and I urge you all to read this message carefully, as it contains **actions that students should take now to ensure they are prepared.**

The position continues to be for education and children's social care settings to remain open and the College will adhere to this recommendation. Schools and colleges can only be closed under the direction of Public Health England. The College has plans in place, should we be required to close the site.

Clearly, you will be concerned about any disruption to your education and our aim is to minimise the effect as far as possible. Please be reassured that the awarding bodies are working closely with Ofqual and the Department for Education and their latest message states *"Our overriding priorities are fairness to students this summer and keeping disruption to a minimum."*

**In the event of a college closure** or significant disruption to lessons, we will aim to achieve the following:

1. Email work to all students for each of their subjects on a daily basis during the period of closure;
2. Respond to email enquiries on a daily basis to support students in their learning;
3. Communicate with students via other means to support their learning (Moodle, YouTube, online Apps etc) where appropriate; these may differ from subject to subject.

**Action you should take now:**

1. Ensure that you have access to your college email account from home. Follow this link [www.kedst.ac.uk/mail](http://www.kedst.ac.uk/mail) and use your normal username and password for access;
2. Ensure that you know how to access the student portal and Moodle. They can be accessed in the same way via these links [www.kedst.ac.uk/students](http://www.kedst.ac.uk/students) (student portal) and [www.kedst.ac.uk/moodle](http://www.kedst.ac.uk/moodle) (Moodle);
3. Ensure that you are only reading about coronavirus from reputable sources;
4. Please make sure that you are following the general principles for helping to prevent the spread of any virus as found on the college website [here](#).

If you do not have a device at home that will allow you to access the college systems, please email [executiveadmins@kedst.ac.uk](mailto:executiveadmins@kedst.ac.uk); we will send you a link to a short questionnaire which will enable us to assist you in the best possible way.

I will keep you informed of our response to emerging advice from the Department of Education and Public Health England as events unfold.

Remley Mann  
Principal

12 March 2020