



The Ridge Employability College

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Date: 1st June 2020

Dear Learners, Parents/Carers,

Ref: Home Learning 2020

Half term was a busy week for everyone involved in the preparation for the college sites to re-open to staff and learners. I would like to thank everyone involved, including staff and members of the Ridge Supporters who have supported the sewing of items to add to our PPE supplies.

As some Learners took a break from Home Learning they engaged in our first Social Zooming sessions and based on the success of these sessions these are to become a weekly event at 11 am every Thursday. Please let us know if anyone else wants to join in and the team will send you a link via email to join the session. This week's theme is 'Name that Tune'!

As you know this is a phased approach in our return to the delivery of sessions on site and is filled with caution as we all continue to put first everyone's safety. I delayed the writing of my letter this week to include a report on the first day back on site. I'm pleased to say that staff and learners have welcomed the opportunity to resume face to face contact and fully embraced the new guidance and approach to observing everyone's safety and learning.

The road map message from the Government is constantly being updated. I will keep the strategy for the college's delivery of education constantly under review to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our staff, learners and families.

Home learning as I say will continue right through the remainder of this term. A family craft pack is attached to this letter all inspired by this lovely weather we are enjoying.

Some weekly reminders,

To help keep us safe as we all use social media and internet platforms more, there is an update from NOS (National Online Safety). This is still on the website for anyone who hasn't seen it.

Staff will continue to support learners with virtual learning if appointments are booked. Staff have marked all the work learners have returned up to last week. Marking feedback now forms part of our weekly calls to learners and photographs of the marking are being sent out to learners.

Virtual learning via 'Whats App' with our teaching staff is available every day between 9am & 3pm. If you would like support with your learning this week please book a teaching slot. Please contact Kerry or Sam on their numbers below.

Teaching staff are available Monday to Friday this week between 9am and 3pm for learners/parents and carers who are continuing their learning on:

Stuart Vaughan, Head of Curriculum-	07903513057
Kerry Richardson, Functional Skills Co-Ordinator-	07919168566
Samantha Everatt, Teacher-	07900043137

If you have any queries regarding welfare or support, please contact Mel or Sharon at any time:

Melanie Atkin, Head of College-	07950389874
Sharon McCusker, Transitions, Data and Pastoral Manager-	07429943136

If parents want to catch up with other parents, there is the 'Group' page on the college face book page. This helps you to keep in touch with each other and share experiences.

If we can do more to help, please let me know. As I have said the teaching team will be continuing home calls every Friday but we are available during the week for any concerns on the numbers detailed above.

We would like to thank you all again for your support at this unprecedented time and if anyone wants to discuss any aspect of the return to college site please contact me.

I hope that everyone is staying safe.

Best wishes to all our families at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Melanie Atkin
Head of College