



## The Ridge Employability College

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<https://www.facebook.com/TheRidgeEmployabilityCollege/>

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Learners, Parents/Carers,

Ref: Lock Down Guidance

The latest news on Saturday from the Government regarding Covid 19 was that England was moving in to a lockdown from today.

This imposes new restrictions on us all with regards

- Households should no longer mix indoors unless in a support bubble.
- Different households may not meet outdoors in gardens but may meet one person from outside their household in a public area.
- Where possible people should aim to reduce the number of journeys they make and work from home where it is possible.

No changes have been made by the Department for Education so the college remains **OPEN**.

We will still be delivering our teaching in our HUB structures in line with current guidance to keep us all safe.

We will be encouraging at all times that staff and learners apply the new recommendations of Hands, Face and Space. Learners will see all staff wearing a face covering to meet the requirements of our various sites to protect us and the public. Face coverings should also be worn by learners when travelling on dedicated college transport, Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings and we expect adults and learners to be sensitive to those needs. Learners may choose to wear face coverings in the classroom but this is personal choice as per the current guidance for a SEN provisions.

We have recently experienced our first positive Covid 19 test in the college and as a result isolated a number of staff and learners. This increased the delivery of remote teaching via Microsoft Teams and Zoom, we have adapted well to this new way of learning. This will continue as an established element of all learner's timetables moving forward. This is so if there is a need to implement a full remote timetable in the future as a result of any incidents that require to action to be taken, the transition to learning at home will be seamless.

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Email and text will continue to be used to communicate information to you to ensure everyone has the latest information as quickly as possible. This could be implemented in a short timescale as we respond to real time situations. My letters to the college community will also continue to be released to you via the website and email as events dictate.

The HUBs will continue to communicating day to day news to keep you informed of developments in the HUBs, if you have any queries please contact your HUB lead, Mel or Sharon at any time.

Melanie Atkin, Head of College -

07950389874

Sharon McCusker, Transitions, Data and Pastoral Manager-

07429943136

The college offices remain closed to visitors. Reception is open for any general queries by calling 01302 897445.

The messages from the government are constantly being updated with regards health and education. I will continue to review the strategy for the college's delivery of education in order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our learners, families and staff

I will inform you directly of any changes in our approach as soon as they are known and full details will be displayed on our website. If I can ask that everyone refer to the site for the latest news.

I hope we can all stay safe by observing guidance that is shared via the college from the Local Authority and Public Health England, I do appreciate at times this can be difficult. Please continue to work together to stay safe and thank you for your continued support at this time. Any queries please contact me.

Best wishes

*Mel*

Melanie Atkin  
Head of College  
Director