

Dear students, parents and carers,

Thank you for bearing with us in these unprecedented times. Over the last week we have made significant steps in ensuring the vast majority of our full time students can continue to access learning from Monday 23rd March.

This letter is broad and generic as we have over 12,000 students currently enrolled on programmes.

We have sent separate and specific letters to our Higher Education and apprentice students and, early next week, will provide further clarity on our approach to our part time adult and leisure offer.

Essentially for all our full time students we have made arrangements to provide online or distance learning opportunities from next week.

Almost each class and sector has different arrangements so our teaching colleagues (usually an existing tutor subject to their health situation) will make contact with all full time students and inform them how next week's learning options will be delivered. If this hasn't already taken place then it will do on Monday 23rd.

Most full time students will be offered online support but some subjects necessitate paper based workbooks, which have been dispatched.

We have also developed a student specific webpage to support you to access your learning and resources more efficiently. This is now live at <https://www.escg.ac.uk/coronavirus-information/student-faqs>

This webpage has a range of support and information, including:

- Frequency Asked Questions (FAQs) covering a range of topics including the latest information from the Department for Education about how they will provide grades for GCSEs and A Levels
- links to library and reference materials and other online materials to support your studies
- a top tips to making a success of online, distance and independent learning

We will add additional resources and information over the next few days.

We will continue to update our broader information on the college's approach to the coronavirus via <https://www.escg.ac.uk/coronavirus-information> and in addition there will also be a chatbot enabled in the bottom right hand corner of these pages where you can pose any specific questions.

Questions will be reviewed and responses sent back as quickly as possible. The FAQ section of the site will also be updated with popular questions posed through the chatbot.

We are determined to support our learners to achieve qualifications and encourage them to work with our staff to get the most out of the learning materials and online sessions we provide over the forthcoming weeks. For those students without exams we will aim to support you to complete the qualifications you are enrolled on.

We strongly advice that students maintain their college timetable and commit to complete the work set by their teacher and other curriculum colleagues. This will ensure that each student has the best opportunity to achieve to their best abilities, however their final grades are determined.

Overall, we are here to support all students and their parents/carers so if you need any clarification please don't hesitate to contact us via the chatbot or web form on the student webpage above.

Above all please stay safe and have a restful weekend,

Kind regards

Rebecca Conroy, Acting CEO