



February/March 2021

Welcome to the Spring term, we hope you are all keeping safe and well.

We continue with our remote learning and praise our students for their resilience with working from home; it is vitally important that students are up to date with all work as we wait further announcements from Ofqual and the exam boards on how examinations and grades are to be awarded this year.

Advice and guidance on schools and colleges opening and the return to sport is constantly changing, however we have outlined important events and information you may need for the remainder of the term in this newsletter and we will keep you updated of any other updates via email and Twitter as and when we receive them.

COVID 19/COLLEGE REOPENING

All students will be invited back from Monday 8 March across all our sites as per Government guidance. Reopening our sites safely is our priority and there is strict guidance to follow to keep everyone safe and well and minimise the spread of Covid 19. The return to college will follow the same timetable as remote learning to minimise the number of students across all sites. At present guidance suggests the following and we will keep you updated:

- Upon the return to college, all students will be tested twice during the first week by college staff.
- Students will then be given home tests for the subsequent weeks prior to attending college.
- All students and staff to always wear masks during the college day, in class and communal areas.
- Students to sit in allocated seating plans inside the building within their bubbles.

- College football training can resume outside from 8 March. This will only involve in-house training and friendly matches until the Easter break.
- Regular sanitisation of hands and equipment.
- Signing of Covid forms.
- Please do not attend college if you or anyone in your family are feeling unwell.

EXAMS (GCSE/BTEC)

As you may be aware GCSE exams have been cancelled for Summer 2021 and it has also just been confirmed that there will not be any BTEC examinations either. The consultation for BTEC exams and grading of coursework is closed and we are expecting an announcement in the next couple of weeks regarding this. The announcement on assessment for GCSE is imminent and we will keep you informed.

It is likely that for GCSE exams, teacher assessment in addition to a set task from the exam boards will be used to assess progress and provide an accurate student grade. It is therefore vitally important that students who are sitting GCSE resit exams engage in all online learning and this includes attending all lessons remotely and completing all the work that has been set by teachers to the required standard. Students have already been assessed for progress to date, but we cannot stress how important it is to complete all tasks given within the submission date required. Students have access to extra support sessions within maths & English and work is set through Firefly on a regular basis - work is easily assessed this way and minimum engagement shows little or no progress.



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BTEC examinations will also be assessed by teachers and we are well prepared for this with exam questions and tasks having been constantly set throughout the first term and progress assessed. This will continue this term especially for Year 12 Level 3 learners who have not yet completed their syllabus and work will be supported by online lessons and set exam questions to constantly track progress of all learners; progress and marks will reflect engagement and submission of work and marks will be allocated accordingly. In addition, students will have the opportunity to sit the exams allocated for January throughout this term - these will be marked internally using the formal mark scheme which will give a truly accurate and fair reflection of progress and grades awarded.

EXTERNAL MODERATION & COURSEWORK

We have been allocated external Examiners for all elements of our coursework for Levels 1-3 Sport and these examiners will moderate the work and marks given to students by all tutors.

Examiners will ask for work to be sent to them from February half term onwards and this affects all students at Everton Football College. We are extremely robust in our approach to work and standards throughout all sites and our external reports reflect accurately the grades allocated and the hard work and excellent support and feedback our tutors provide to all students.

EXTRA SUPPORT

All our students are offered extra academic support and pastoral support if required and they can book 1-1 sessions with their tutor via Teams for coursework support. In addition, GCSE Maths and English run extra support sessions through the week that all students have access to and individual students have

also been highlighted to attend these sessions. The 'In the Blue Chair' Q&A interviews return next week and our daily challenges and fitness programmes are designed to encourage positive mental health and wellbeing.

AOB

Hopefully by now you have all received midterm reports and these provide a fair and accurate reflection of progress to date. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

We held an online FIFA competition over half term which was open to all our students and we are looking to enter a team into an online tournament ran by FIFA and the Association of Colleges during the summer term where three students will be selected to represent Everton Football College in this competition.

The return to sport is key to our students staying healthy. The FA and other governing bodies are updating guidance as this changes and we are really excited to return to training and are looking forward to seeing our students participate in sport. We hope we may be able to resume competitive sport after half term which would be a great way to finish the year.

See you all week beginning 8 March,

Stay safe,

Staff @evertoncollege