



31st December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a peaceful break over the Christmas period and have enjoyed some very much needed time at home with your loved ones. We are sorry to interrupt your winter break but am sure you will appreciate this update on changes to the start of term.

January Return

You will have no doubt heard snippets from the most recent government announcement yesterday. This is how the changes will be implemented at The Studio School and the Life Sciences UTC.

January 4th – INSET Day. This time will be dedicated to staff training and setting up testing.

January 5th – Online Learning will start for all students in all year groups. All students will have 3 live lessons per day and a daily Scrum or Pulse coaching session, taking place on Google Meet. **Lessons take place daily at 9am, 11am and 2pm.** Your child's remote learning timetable will be communicated on the 4th January in their Google classroom and on the remote learning page of the website.

January 11th – Year 11, 13 and our Year 12 students studying vocational subjects will return to school. All other year groups will continue to follow their remote learning programme.

We will also re-open for students in other year groups whose parents are critical key workers and require a place, as well as for our vulnerable students. Students will have support and facilities to access the online provision alongside their fellow students. If your child is in Year 9, 10 or 12 and will be attending from the 11th January, you **MUST** email admin@lifesciencesutc.co.uk or admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk before 4th January to confirm a place.

January 18th – All students will return to school.

As you appreciate, the guidance on this situation is changing rapidly. We will update on each date as we approach it.

BTEC Examinations

BTEC examinations are due to continue as planned from the 6th January. Students already have their timetable of exams. The building will be open as planned and we will send details on how to access the building for these exams on Monday 4th January. It is crucial that you encourage your child to continue to prepare for these exams as they will have a significant impact on their final result.

Mass testing programme

Over the next week, the CUC building will be set up to offer two routine tests to each student and member of staff in a bid to reduce the amount of days lost due to isolating bubbles. The testing process will be delivered by the team at the CUC so students are familiar with the staff involved. We will shortly distribute consent forms to allow for this to take place. It is our intention that all

students will have been tested twice by the 27th January. Following the exceptional take up by students in December and their maturity, we are encouraging all students to participate again to reduce transmissions in the communities in which you live. Students aged 16 and over are eligible to give their own consent. We have been made aware that access to regular symptomless testing can enable families to avoid periods of isolation and minimise disruption to all students.

We appreciate this is not as originally planned, and hope it gives you enough time to make the necessary arrangements. **We will host a Principal's Surgery and a dedicated Sixth Form Drop-in session on the 7th January.** This will allow you to meet with us online with any questions you may have. Details will follow by email.

We will of course continue to update you with any changes. Please do keep an eye on our website and social media for the latest information.

Wishing you a happy New Year, here's to a healthy 2021.

Stay safe,

Jill Davies, Principal