

March 4<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Asymptomatic Testing at Southport College**

I am writing to inform you that we have set up an asymptomatic (no symptoms) testing centre at the College where we are strongly encouraging our students and staff to take a quick test on their return. These tests will help to keep our College safe for us all.

As your son/daughter/ward is aged 16 or over, their consent to be tested is required. We will shortly be sending all students an email (to their college email account) containing information about testing and a link to an electronic registration and consent form. To enable them to make an informed decision, and if willing, complete and return the form, I would encourage you to discuss testing with them. Please note that they need to have completed this electronic form BEFORE they return to college.

Once back, they will be directed to attend the testing centre where they will carry out a 'lateral flow test'. These are quick and easy using a swab of the nose and throat and are supervised by trained staff. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual student. There will then be another two opportunities to take a test in the near future, moving to a home testing system after this. Further details regarding this will follow.

If you have any questions regarding the testing process, please visit our website or email us on [c19students@southport.ac.uk](mailto:c19students@southport.ac.uk)

Finally, please find some general information regarding other aspects of returning to College.

#### **ID Badges**

Students need to wear their ID badges on campus at all times. Anyone who has lost their ID Badge can get a replacement on their first day back at no cost.

#### **Travel Passes**

Students in receipt of a travel pass can collect their new pass from the college finance office at any time during their first day back.

#### **Face Coverings**

All students need to wear a face covering in communal areas (unless already issued with an exemption badge) so please remind your son/daughter/ward to bring one with them each day.

#### **Stationary**

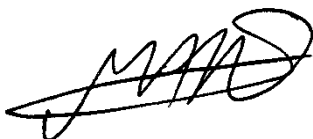
For covid safety reasons, students must not share stationary and therefore need to ensure they bring everything they need with them to college each day.

#### **Free Meals**

Students in receipt of free meals will continue to get cash payments until the Easter Holidays.

We are really looking forward to welcoming our students back into College and please rest assured that we are following all the guidance and doing everything we can to make college a covid safe environment.

With best wishes



**Michelle Brabner**  
Principal / CEO