

29 December 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

On Saturday 27 November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant while more information is gathered about it.

Face Coverings

As a result, from **Tuesday 30 November**, face coverings must be worn in all communal areas in college by staff, visitors and students, unless they are exempt. This includes the students' union and canteen, unless sat down eating or drinking. Face coverings are optional in classrooms and examination rooms. Students should continue to wear face coverings on public transport, unless they are exempt.

Testing

Students are encouraged to continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests.

Contact tracing and isolation

The [current guidance on contact tracing and isolation](#) remains in place. In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

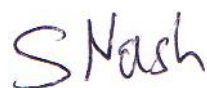
Vaccination

All eligible students aged 12 and over are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters. Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

To book a vaccination, please visit: [Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#).

Thanks very much for your continued support in keeping our students, staff and wider college community safe.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Nash
Principal New College Bradford