Dear Parent/Carer

Please find below a summary of the key messages which are being shared with our students, during their tutorials next week.  As always, if you could discuss these messages with your young person, that would really help in reinforcing the message

**Communicating with teachers**

All students who are working remotely from home are using Microsoft Teams for lessons, uploading assignments and sharing resources. There is also a chat and message facility on teams. We really do encourage student / teacher communication and recognise the value of one-to-one support, but we will be explaining to students that communication with teachers should be kept to office hours; and certainly no later than 6pm or before 8am.  We all need to be mindful of workload and the extra pressure that the pandemic is having on all our mental health and this includes our teachers.

**Remote learning**

As part of the tutorial programme, students are required to complete half termly quizzes on key themes around keeping safe, British Values and Prevent.  These are set up on Moodle; please encourage your students to complete the quizzes from last half term.  We have also been reminding students of the importance of having their cameras on in their online lessons and this is written in to our student code of conduct.

**Maths and English**

We will be reminding students of the importance of their maths and English lessons and the homework and activities that need completing each week. If your young person has not got a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths and/or English, they have to do English/Maths alongside their other course. It is the most important two qualifications they need in order to progress.  Please encourage and check their attendance at these lessons in particular.

**Health and wellbeing**

We are working hard to support our young people through this global pandemic and we are very much aware of the potential strain on their mental health and wellbeing. You may be interested in some recent guidelines which has released by the government:

[Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fcovid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing%2Fguidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak&data=04%7C01%7CDonna.Madden%40NelsonGroup.ac.uk%7Cc49fce70babc48e533de08d8bed7003d%7Cec8185ce4f05448b828746c0185766e2%7C0%7C0%7C637469177909597038%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=tJQN25dBGUFiaHNq6wdPTirjgMxjHauZu4WUjBa4%2FO4%3D&reserved=0)

**Important deadlines**

All of our students who are applying for the next level or a different course within college are going through the process of internal progression.  The deadline for students to have applied (using the application portal) is 01.02.21

For Level 3 and A level students applying to university, UCAS extended the deadline to 1800hrs on the 29th January.

Thank you for your support. Please remember to ensure that our young people follow the COVID rules of staying at home and paying attention to the “hands, face, space” messages to help reduce COVID transmission.

Kind regards

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**Fionnuala Swann**

Assistant Principal Academic Curriculum and Centre Principal for Nelson

**Nelson and Colne College Group**

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