

25.2.2021

The John Graham Centre
Lucketts Farm
17 Blean Hill
Canterbury
CT2 9EF
01227 478 564

Dear Student/Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your continued help and support over this difficult time. We are pleased to let you know that we can now give you an official date that the centre will be reopened from.

We will be welcoming back students to take part in onsite activities from Monday 15th March 2021 your days will remain the same unless we have contacted you separately.

You will be inwhich will be based in the..... Please look for the gate with your Bubble number and go to that point for drop off and collections. Once you have returned to the centre your Bubble will be set and unfortunately you will be unable to swap and change. Also, just a reminder that students can be dropped off between 9.45am and 10.15am, no earlier please. We are unable to have cars or taxis waiting in the car park before this time so please do not arrive any earlier than 9.45. Collections can be made from 3.10 – 3.30pm.

We will be in touch with care teams to let them know our opening date but would also encourage you to get in touch with them and/or your taxi provider to get the ball rolling on your transport.

We have attached a screening form for you to complete which must be returned close to but before your first day back on site. Unfortunately, if you turn up and we have not had a screening form back from you we will not be able to let you come in. We will be continuing to send screening forms every 2 weeks and do require them to be returned promptly for everyone's safety. We will not be able to let students on site if we have not had the screening form returned.

As before we will continue to run our virtual sessions alongside onsite activities, unfortunately due to scheduling and staffing demands this does mean that from the date of reopening we will no longer be able to offer alternative services such as the one-on-one walking sessions, activity packs and regular check in calls.

We want to assure you that we are continuing to do everything we can to keep you and our staff safe, all previous control measures and precautions remain in place and in addition to these all of our staff are taking part in a minimum of biweekly "symptom free" testing. This is something that everyone over the age of 5 is entitled to take part in and there are now many testing sites across Kent. We would encourage you to look into this as it is a simple step that anyone can take to help control the spread of the coronavirus, more information can be found at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/protect-kent-and-medway/test-and-trace/symptom-free-testing>

Further to this, we are pleased to say that all of JGC staff have received their first COVID-19 vaccination! This is a really exciting step in the right direction; however, we do not intend to become complacent and we will continue to make sure respiratory and hand hygiene and social distancing remain in place. It is important for you bear in mind that not every student will have had the vaccine, or some may not have been offered it yet and while we will always do everything possible to keep our students and staff safe, we cannot guarantee that others you will be interacting with will have been vaccinated. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to think carefully about the risks of returning into this environment and to consider if it is right for you at this time.

We would be grateful if you could share with us information about your vaccination, this will help us when reviewing our risk assessments. The information we would like from you is:

- If you have been offered the vaccine
- If you have chosen not to have the vaccine (we do not need to know why)
- The date of your first vaccination

- The date of your second vaccination

We will of course handle all information you share with us with complete confidentiality, in line with our policies, procedures and legal requirements.

Finally, we would like to reiterate the importance of staying at home if you, or anyone in your household or support bubble, has any symptoms of COVID-19, no matter how mild they are.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you have any of these symptoms, get a test to check if you have coronavirus and stay at home until you get your result. We cannot stress enough how important it is for the health, safety and wellbeing of all our students and staff that **anyone** with symptoms stays at home and does not come to the centre.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to speak to a member of our team, please feel free to get in touch with us via phone or email (details below) or check the website for updates.

We hope you are safe and happy and look forward to seeing you soon!

Kind Regards,

The JGC Management Team