

Parent newsletter

Welcome to our newsletter for the parents, carers and guardians of our students.



GB MET signs up to national mental health & wellbeing charter

We are proud to announce that we are the latest college to sign up to the Association of Colleges' (AoC) Mental Health and Wellbeing Charter, to formally recognise our work in continuing to support the mental health and wellbeing of our students and staff.

The Charter includes commitments to promote equality of opportunity and to challenge mental health stigma, provide appropriate mental health training for staff and offer targeted individual mental health support where appropriate. We have also fully integrated the AOC commitments into a Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for both students and staff.

[Read more here](#)

How GCSE English and maths will be assessed this year

The summer examinations have been cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, GCSEs will be awarded through teacher-assessed grades.

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has released a [guidance document](#) which explains the process in more detail. The key things to note are:

- A range of evidence will be used to assess students' performance and decide their grades. This may include assessments, classwork, homework, mock exams etc.
- To ensure we have enough evidence to accurately assess your performance, we expect students to continue attending their English and/or maths lessons until May half term.
- The College will review the available evidence from 26 May and submit GCSE grades to the awarding organisation by the 18 June submission deadline.
- The awarding organisation will then check the accuracy of our grading through a period of quality assurance.
- Results will be available on Thursday 12 August. We will let our students know how they can collect their results nearer the time.

For further information, please refer to the JCQ [guidance document](#).

Please note that Functional Skills examinations will proceed in the summer as planned.



GB MET and Sussex Partnership launch a Health and Care Academy

We are proud to be working in partnership with Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT) to educate and support the next generation of healthcare workers through a new Health and Care Academy.

The launch of the Health and Care Academy is the first of its kind in the South East region and enables students to work with SPFT, who provide specialist mental health and learning disability services across south east England, to gain valuable work placements and support from their dedicated healthcare mentors.

The Health and Care Academy will grow over the next few years, increasing the number of opportunities within the NHS for GB MET students across the wider health and social care programmes offered by the College, including Level 3 qualifications for school leavers.

[Read more here](#)



Walk this May

May is [Living Streets](#)' National Walking Month.

Walking is good for our minds, our bodies and our neighbourhoods and has been a lifeline during the past year, helping people stay active and connected. Living Streets have produced some great [resources and activities](#) to get everyone walking this May, including their [Try20 Challenge](#) to help you fit 20 minutes of walking into your day.



Free activities & workshops

Our Widening Participation team is offering a range of talks and workshops throughout May for students at GB MET, students at other colleges, and people in our wider community. All activities are free to attend and include:

- [Design Culture: Virtual Twilight Lecture Series](#)
- [Music and Media Industry Weekly Webinars](#)

Read more information and [sign up here](#).



Next steps in education

Our Widening Participation team offer group and 1:1 support for students who have applied to university or are unsure of their next steps in education after college, along with their parents or carers. Support includes:

- Preparing for university (including student finance and Disabled Students Allowance)
- Post-college education pathways

Please contact wp@gbmc.ac.uk to book.

Find out more

Upcoming dates to remember:

- Wednesday 26 May: Teacher training day (No College)
- Monday 31 May: Bank holiday



If you have any questions about anything in this newsletter, please contact marketing@gbmc.ac.uk

