Dear student, parent or carer,

As we close week two of becoming an online community I wanted to say thank you to our students, parents, carers and staff. We are proud of how you have all worked together and responded to new ways of working and the creative ideas and learning taking place.

Students are making good use of the wellbeing support on offer and continue to work towards their next step plans. Our priority is to make sure all students, parents and carers receive the support they need and we will work tirelessly in doing so.

We know that some students may be finding the transition tough: you may be struggling with working online, worrying about your future, or may need some support with wellbeing. **If you have any concerns or would simply like to talk, please get in touch via** **heretohelp@eastcoast.ac.uk** (for Sixth Form and College). Our student services teams are working over the Easter holidays and are here to support you all.

The Lowestoft Sixth Form and East Coast College websites are being kept up to date with news. Last week, we emailed all students to reassure you all that we are working to Government guidance around exams and assessments. You can find information on the *Updates* page of each website and wellbeing support links here: <https://www.eastcoast.ac.uk/student-support/wellbeing/>

The links below are good examples of information available to students, parents and carers: <http://www.norfolkandwaveneymind.org.uk/>,

<https://youngminds.org.uk>

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

The College has been supporting our wider community. I have had regular updates with Town and County Councils and volunteering organisations to ensure that where we can support, it is co-ordinated. **We have launched a campaign to raise funds for foodbanks.** Follow us on social media to find out how you can get involved and help celebrate being part of our fantastic college community.

Last Friday, we gathered up our PPE and dropped thousands of medical grade gloves, plastic aprons and masks to the staff at James Paget Hospital and local police stations who have been short of supplies.  We still have students on placements and supporting the NHS efforts.

I wish to end in thanking you once again for your tremendous effort, by working together we will get through this.

Kind regards,



Stuart Rimmer

CEO and Principal East Coast College