

Cavendish College

23rd December 2011

Dear Student

Re: Partial take-over of Cavendish College

As all of you will be aware, the UK Border Agency and other regulatory bodies for the past year or so have been tightening considerably the rules under which independent colleges like ours are allowed to operate. Discriminatory measures such as those preventing International students taking part-time work during their studies, if they are attending a private college, has been particularly damaging – not just for Cavendish but for the private sector generally. Our wrongful suspension by the UKBA from the Tier 4 Sponsors Register in January 2010 is another example of the attack we have been under from the Home Office. We recovered our licence in March 2010 but only after a protracted and costly legal challenge and by this time our business and reputation had been damaged. However, given our 25 years in this business of training and educating young people from all walks of life and numerous parts of the world, and our reputation as an honest and quality provider, we did in fact start to recover our position later that year, but by the Spring of 2011 the new wave of UKBA regulatory changes hit again. We have continued to fight since then, in the best interests of our students and staff, but unfortunately have now reached the stage where we cannot continue alone.

It therefore falls upon me to announce, with great reluctance and extreme sadness, but also with considerable frustration that Cavendish College will not be able to re-open for the January 2012 term.

However, I am pleased to announce that I have managed to secure a partial takeover arrangement with St Patrick's College that will allow continuity of your studies without the need for re-applying for a new visa. St Patrick's, which is in Great Chapel Street W1, not far from here, has agreed to take Cavendish students onto its courses in the new year, subject naturally to interview, and ultimately to the agreement of the UK Border Agency – which should be a formality.

My priority over the next two weeks will be to bring together all your results from previous terms and also finalise your marks for the October to December 2011 term that has only just finished. I would then like to invite all students in for meetings during the early part of January. This will enable you to collect your results/transcripts and will also provide me with an opportunity to address you all and answer any questions you may have. These meetings will take place at St Patrick's College, the details of which are provided below. On this day you will also be able to meet the admissions staff at St Patrick's.

Where the same course is not available at St Patrick's, credit transfer/exemptions will be agreed for your transfer onto a similar course and every effort made to ensure you complete your studies within your original enrolment period. I'm afraid however, that Cavendish is not able to transfer any fees you have paid, so St Patrick's will have to make a further charge on you to make the transfer. They have however, kindly accepted to keep this to a minimum, which in most cases will mean that students will only have to pay an additional £500 for each term they have to complete – exact details will be provided at the meetings in January.

Please note however, that since St Patrick's do not currently offer University of Wales degrees, if you are enrolled on the UoW MBA or BSc programme the additional amount you will have to pay could be higher than the £500 quoted above. I am currently trying to secure an arrangement with UoW to allow a 'teach-out' of the Wales degree that you are currently enrolled on, but at the St Patrick's premises. I will update you with further information on this as and when it becomes available.

Of course you are not obliged to make the transfer to St Patrick's and you will be free to make any other arrangements as you wish. I should point out however that if you do not take part in this takeover arrangement your leave to remain will be cancelled by the UKBA and you will have a limited time (60 days) to find another college.

Again, to assist you in this respect, should you decide not to go to St Patrick's, I have also had discussions with several other accredited and reputable institutions who have agreed to consider taking students from Cavendish – and again at a reduced fee. They are: EThames Graduate School; BPP University College, KCB (Kensington College of Business) and Limkokwing University London. I will be emailing you details of these arrangements within the next few days.

However, please bear in mind that if you choose to apply to any college other than St Patrick's, the special arrangements for partial takeover do not apply. This means that you will have to apply for a new UK Student Tier 4 visa, and also comply with any other criteria such as proof of financial status, IELTS or present any other qualifications that the other colleges may specify. My own very strong personal recommendation is that you take up the St Patrick's option. This will make the transition out of Cavendish College less problematic for you. It really is a good deal for our students, and very much the best deal on offer in these difficult times. I recommend that you accept it.

Please note that even if you decide not to transfer to St Patrick's you will still need to attend the relevant meeting described below in order to collect your Cavendish College transcripts.

I should also point out that neither Cavendish nor any member of its senior management or staff will benefit financially from this partial take-over. We have no financial interest in students moving to St Patrick's (or your introduction to any other college) – we are simply trying to do our best to smooth your transition into a new institution.

NOTE:

All of this information will be available temporarily on our SharePoint system, but can also be found on the Facebook page where we will keep you updated with any further developments:

<http://www.facebook.com/Cavendish.College>

Please also note that Cavendish College will be closed from the 23rd December 2011 and will not re-open to students.

St Patrick's have also kindly offered to provide a help/support line should you wish to raise any questions before the meetings. Please email info@st-patricks.ac.uk or call 020 7287 6664 and ask for Marketing.

Meeting dates – January 2012

All Cavendish students should report to the reception of St Patrick's College, depending on their course, at the dates/times given below. Please note that Cavendish College will be closed so you must attend these meetings AT ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE. Please address all queries to info@st-patricks.ac.uk in the first instance. Their telephone number is 020 7287 6664.

The timing of events on each day will be:

11.30am	Dr Sanders will address students (Q&A)
12.30pm	Short break
1.00pm	Student meetings with St Patrick's Admissions staff

Tuesday 10th January 2012

All **Business** students on **University of Wales** BSc and MBA courses

Wednesday 11th January 2012

All students on Edexcel (HNC/HND) and BSc **Computing** courses

Thursday 12th January 2012

All students from Art and Design and Digital Media courses (**Creative Studies & Digital Depts**) and **English Language** courses

Friday 13th January 2012

All students on **Edexcel Business, Management and Hospitality** courses – HNC, HND, DMS

Please bring with you your Cavendish Student ID card, and your certificates and transcripts from previous courses (including IELTS, Pearson PTE, etc).

NOTES:

1. **MBA Dissertation students** – since Cavendish College will not be open, if you are due to submit your dissertation please bring it along when you attend your course's designated meeting event at St Patrick's in January (see above date).
2. **CUFP (Cavendish University Foundation Programme) students** – arrangements have been made for you to transfer to David Game Tutorial College in Notting Hill Gate and information regarding this will be provided in a separate email/letter.
3. **Creative & Digital Media students** - Please note that all work, portfolio's, etc., will be taken to St Patrick's and stored in a safe place.

St Patrick's College

Key attributes:

A Highly Trusted Sponsor (HTS licence holder) with the UK Border Agency.

The first college in the independent sector in England to be undertaking an Integrated Quality and Enhancement Review (IQER) with the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).

A confirmed 'Listed Body' able to deliver courses that lead to degrees awarded by Recognised Bodies on the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) database. The entry for St Patrick's can be found at:

http://www.dius.gov.uk/policies/higher-education/recognised-uk-degrees/listed-bodies#Alpha_S

An approved institution on the UK Register of Learning Providers (UKRLP). Our Reference No is 10006243.

An approved college to receive student funding for UK/EEA/Home students.

A Strategic Partner of leading UK universities such as Sunderland and Middlesex.

An Edexcel Study Centre. Our education systems were judged to be Quality A

Fully accredited by BAC

Advantages for Cavendish students transferring to St Patrick's:

* Since this is a partial takeover, Cavendish students will be able to continue studying at St Patrick's using their current visas. The current entitlements of your visa (e.g. part-time work rights) would remain as they are. There would be no need to make a fresh visa application until your current visa is about to expire.

* In addition, because this is a partial takeover, Cavendish students will not be required to take a SELT (Secure English Language Test) nor meet any other regulatory criteria e.g. Financial – you will not be required to have a certain amount of funds in your bank account for a specified period.

* St Patrick's is located very close to Cavendish College, so the disruption to students will be minimal.

* St Patrick's is a long established, accredited, well-resourced and reputable institution.

* St Patrick's already has Highly Trusted Status with the UK Border Agency and has already started the QAA process. It is exempt from QAA Educational Oversight and you can therefore be assured of your future there.

Directions to St Patrick's College and Contact Details

St. Patrick's College London
24 Great Chapel Street
London W1F 8FS
England

Phone: +44 (0) 20 7287 6664

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7287 6282

E-mail: info@st-patricks.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.st-patricks.ac.uk>

For directions to St Patrick's please see:

<http://www.bing.com/maps/default.aspx?encType=1&where1=W1F+8FS&cp=51.515617~-0.134615&qvpt=map+London+W1F+8FS&FORM=MIRE>

