



Weekly Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students, Parents and Carers Friday 3 July 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Well done for reaching the end of a long week of exams at home. This is certainly a new experience for all of us but we are impressed at the ways students have undertaken the exams so reliably, and it has been interesting to see the positive feedback about the relative lack of stress some of you have experienced in taking exams at home compared to in the exam hall. Of course, this is not a feeling shared by all, but some unexpected positives hopefully show how we can make the most of the current circumstances. Teachers will be reporting grades over the course of the next week, and will give feedback via Teams as well as in person during the last week of term.

I also wanted to say farewell to Mr Kenny, who has left the school at the end of June. He will be much missed by students and staff and we wish him all the best for the future.

Year 12 Teaching from 6 July

Next week (w/c 6 July), Year 12 students will resume their remote learning timetable, with recorded segments and independent activities being set via Teams.

The following week (w/c 13 July), lessons for Year 12 will take place in school, led by subject teachers and specialists. Sessions for each subject will be 2 hours' long. A timetable of these is attached to this bulletin. Please check the timetable carefully so that you know when the lessons will be. In all but a very few cases, sessions will be led by at least one of your subject teachers. Where your subject teachers are not able to attend onsite at the moment, a subject specialist will lead the session. Lessons will focus on exam feedback as well as preparing for the next steps over the summer and for September. Work will be set for students to complete at home if they are not able to attend.

More detailed information about arrangements and expectations will follow next week, but you will see on the timetable we will be making use of rooms across the site in order to ensure social distancing is in place. Sessions have staggered start times to minimise contact between different groups and teachers will meet students at the usual student entrance to Braintree Sixth Form to escort them to the room they are using.

Students attending school will have to follow strict social distancing and personal hygiene rules. Students do not have to follow the normal dress code but should wear suitable clothes

that can be washed on returning home. At the present time, Café6 remains closed so students must bring any snacks and drinks, and the Common Room is also closed.

Exams 2021

You may be aware that a consultation is underway about some possible changes that could be made to the exams next year. You can contribute to the consultation if you would like to:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/897137/Consultation_on_proposed_changes_to_the_assessment_of_GCSEs_AS_and_A_levels_in_2021_020620.pdf

Tutor Groups 2020-2021

We are making some changes to the tutor groups for September. This change will allow tutors to deliver the Personal Development Programme more effectively to Years 12 and 13 in separate groups. Tutors will be as follows below. You will see that we have paired tutors together, so that, for example, Mr Wilson's current Year 12 tutees will join Mr Morris's group. Tutors will work together over the course of the year. In particular, both former and current tutors will work together on reference writing and helping students with their applications next year.

Mrs Newell and Mrs Usher-Letch will no longer be tutors from September due to working hours but will remain attached to the pastoral team in support of students. I would like to thank them for all their support and help for students as sixth form tutors. I am delighted to welcome Ms Monro, a very experienced sixth form tutor, back to the team from September.

Year 12

Mr A Wilson
Ms S Monro
Mrs C Rice
Ms P Dunnett
Ms J Shepherd
Mrs S Woodward

Year 13

Mr A Morris
Mrs C Dunton
Mr N Bridgwater/Mrs I Ferriz-Barnes
Mr J Blogg
Mrs L Cosway
Mr T Potter

Year 13 Book Returns

Many thanks to Year 13 students who have been returning their books. Please do keep these coming in before the end of term. Campus Reception will be largely closed during the school holidays, so it is important to ensure books are returned before Friday 17 July.

A Level Results Day 13 August

A letter has been sent home today about arrangements for A Level results day, including information about UCAS and the process on and around results day.

Make Happen events to support current Year 13 students

Transition to university in uncertain times

We're offering a free online workshop for Year 13 and college students on 13 and 21 July to help them deal with the big life decisions they'll be making in the coming weeks, in partnership with motivational coach Shahilla Barok. The workshop is designed to help students work through their uncertainties and find ways to plan the best way forward, this workshop is offered to Year 13 students who finish school in summer 2020. Find out more and encourage sign-up [here](#).

Get Results Day-ready

We all know Results Day can be a stressful day for college, further education and sixth form students. This webinar on Monday 20 July will help students navigate the many routes available to them, and our experienced team will be on-hand to answer their questions about clearing, adjustment and UCAS.

After the exams this week, do enjoy a peaceful and relaxing weekend, and take the time to recharge.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Townsend
Assistant Headteacher – KS5