



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 22 January 2021

Dear Students

Thank you for all the responses to the survey sent out last week and for the responses to the consultation on the student dress code. In assembly next week, I will give you an overview of what the responses to that consultation said and the main points arising from everyone's feedback. In the short term, we have decided that once we are able to reopen and for the rest of this academic year, we will continue with the current slightly more relaxed dress code that has been in place since September.

The student survey gives us an extremely useful picture of where the strengths of the sixth form are as well as areas to develop further, and we will be discussing these in the coming weeks, including with student council. Although it is not quite the same as being together in classes, you and your teachers are doing a remarkably good job of making a success of online learning and lessons and we're really proud of you all for this. Do make sure you're using the bulletin each week to access careers and Higher Education information alongside your studies, and if you can, please do take the time to have a look at the consultation on the awarding of grades this summer. A link is below.

Resources to support your home learning – message from Mrs Osborn

Essex Libraries have a fantastic range of FREE online resources to support you with your studies, EPQ project work and revision. Go to <https://www.essex.gov.uk> and select the Libraries Link and then click Reference Resources.

Their online reference resources gives you FREE access to:

- Encyclopaedia Britannica
- Issues Online - Statistics and information on current social issues
- Newspapers, Magazines and Journals
- Grove Art Online
- Discovering Literature
- Naxos Music Library

You also have access to FREE e-comics and e-books – if you want some down time and want to do a bit of reading for pleasure!

To access all of these FREE resources all you need is an Essex Library card. You can enrol online at any time and you will be given access straight away.

If you are looking for revision materials to support your A Level studies, Philip Allan Magazines have a bank of FREE revision material online. Here you will find revision PowerPoints, key topic worksheets, weblinks for extended reading, podcasts and revision exercises to consolidate learning. Go to: <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazineextras>

If you have any queries regarding these resources, or need some help and support locating resources, please do not hesitate to contact the sixth form library (katrina.osborn@braintreesixthform.com)

Ofqual/Department for Education consultation on exam grading in summer 2021

As many of you will be aware, there is a consultation being carried out on the process for awarding grades this summer. This is open until 29 January. A link to the consultation and the online survey are here if you want to look at the proposals and share your views: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

Summer Schools

The Sutton Trust runs fully-funded summer schools in partnership with thirteen leading universities, giving students the chance to experience university life and explore a subject through academic sessions. Applications are now open and will close on 2 March. More details can be found here: <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>

UCAS Discover Apprenticeships

A week of live sessions covering everything you need to know about apprenticeships, sponsored by the National Apprenticeship Service

This National Apprenticeship Week (Monday 8 February – Friday 12 February) UCAS are hosting a week of dedicated live sessions, information, and advice about everything to do with apprenticeships. Each day students can discover something new about what's on offer and what's involved in studying while working. For more detail and to book, see here: <https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships/discover-apprenticeships>

Work Experience opportunities

Experience at Speakers for Schools are offering a wide range of virtual work experience opportunities, some of which are listed below. These are free of charge. For more information and to sign in, visit: <https://www.speakersforschools.org/experience-2/>

Royal Air Force Careers Insight Day - Access All Areas

Eligibility: 15+

3 Dates still available:

[2nd March](#) (Deadline 1st Feb)

[3rd March](#) (Deadline 2nd Feb)

[4th March](#) (Deadline 3rd Feb)

Time: 10:00 – 15:00

[ST EMpowered Working in the Water Industry](#)

Dates: 15th February 2021.

Eligibility: 16 – 19 year old students keen to find out more about a career in management.

Application Deadline: 25th January 2021

[Virtual Work Experience with a leading Construction/Engineering/Infrastructure/Design Company](#)

Dates: 15th -19th February 2021.

Eligibility: 14– 19 year olds students interested in Smart Motorways sector & technology

Application Deadline: 29th January 2021

[Wates: Insight into the Construction Industry – International Women’s Day](#)

Date: 8th March 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 female students.

Application Deadline: 8th February 2021

[The NDEC Women in Cyber Virtual Work Experience Day](#)

Date: 8th March 2021.

Time: 10-14:00

Eligibility: 14-19 female students interested in cyber & security.

Application Deadline: 17th February 2021

[Royal Air Force International Women’s Day Webinar - Meet our Ambassadors - 10am-1pm](#)

Date: 8th March

Time: 10am-1pm

Eligibility: 15– 19 year olds students interested in hearing some inspiring stories from some of our RAF Female Ambassadors

Application Deadline: 8th February 2021

[Magazine & Website Article Writing - Add to Your Creative Portfolio - 1 Week Virtual Work Experience](#)

Dates: 8th – 12th March 2021.

Eligibility: Creative 15 – 19 year olds interested in marketing research, data collection and analysis. – Particularly from the East of England

Application Deadline: 18th February 2021

[Green Skills in the Construction and Engineering Industry](#)

Dates: 6th -9th April 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds interested in the ‘green’ plans for the construction and engineering industry.

Application Deadline: 7th March 2021

[VWEX: Construct your Career with Kier](#)

Dates: 1st – 5th March 2021.

Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds interested in design, finance, Health & Safety, Sustainability, Planning or Community Engagement

Application Deadline: 17th February 2021

[East West Railway Company - Building a New Railway](#)

Dates: 6th -9th April 2021.

Eligibility: 16 – 19 year olds interested in Technology, Engineering, Planning, Business Studies, Design and/or Customer Services

Application Deadline: 28th February 2021

Hoping you get the chance to get some fresh air and time away from screens this weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs M Townsend', written in a cursive style.

Mrs M Townsend
Head of Sixth Form
Assistant Headteacher – KS5