



THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

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Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

4 May 2020

Dear Year 12,

I hope you and your families are keeping well. By now, you have had time to settle into a new way of working remotely with your courses. I am really proud at how you are engaging with your teachers at this time.

We do not know at this stage how long we will continue to work in this way. When we consider the impact of school closure on your education in the longer term, we must not forget how fortunate we are. You attend a good community Sixth Form, with high quality committed teachers, who want the very best for you. We have and will continue to work closely with you and your family to ensure any barriers to learning at this time can be reduced or resolved.

We will continue with the following expectations of all Year 12 students:

- If you become unwell or you have difficulty in attending online lessons, it is your responsibility to contact your Form Tutor in the first instance as soon as you can. Your wellbeing at this point in time is our priority. Your Form Tutor, Mrs Gibson-Smith and myself can support you whilst you recover or until your situation improves. If we know why you are unable to attend lessons, we can offer support and let your teachers know when to expect you back in lessons, so they can help you in catching up with work you have missed.
- If you are having difficulty with time management, motivation and engagement with your studies, please contact your Form Tutor or a teacher you feel able to discuss this with.
- If any student is choosing not to attend online lessons/missing deadlines, then we will assume that the student is truanting lessons, which we will take very seriously. Whilst students are healthy and well, with no barriers to learning, we would expect them to keep up to date in their studies. Should any student need help of any kind at this time, they will receive it.
- Continue to email your Form Tutor each week so we know you are well and how you are coping during this time.
- Students are expected to read their school emails and check their Google Classrooms twice a day. This will help keep you organised and well informed with what is happening within the Sixth Form.
- Plan your week ahead, making sure you continue to attend all timetabled online lessons and meet deadlines with high quality work.

We continue to maintain high expectations of and for our students, so that we can recover from your disrupted learning much faster.

Your teachers do not want you to fall behind any more than is necessary at this time. They are working hard to continue delivering the course content. In time, we will find out from Ofqual how they plan to make considerations for the disruption to your learning. For now, we need you to be committed and fully engaged in your studies and with your teachers.

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.



Before Easter, we published some remote study skills advice from Mrs Simmons and pastoral advice from Mrs Gibson-Smith. We recommend you review these materials again, as some of the advice may have become more relevant to you now that we have been in lockdown for a longer period.

Dates for your diary:

- Year 12 Assembly: Wednesday 6th May 1.20pm. Google meet code: year12assembly
- Online UCAS University application day: Tuesday 19th May.

More information regarding this Enrichment day will be given in assembly this week.

We will get through this and recover as quickly as possible. We all need to remain engaged, supporting each other and working hard at this time. If you need help of any kind - just ask!

We are missing you and the relationships we enjoy with you all. Stay safe, take care of yourselves and your families.

Looking forward to seeing you all in assembly on Wednesday!

With my best wishes

Mrs S Pykett
Assistant Headteacher
Director of Sixth Form
spykett@buckinghamschool.org

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