

Be inspired and achieve together

Wednesday 29th April 2020

Dear Parents

Re. Year 12 Information to Parents and Students

Please find below an update on matters relevant to Year 12 with some important information. We hope that all our students and families are keeping well at this time, please inform us if otherwise. We continue to provide academic and pastoral support at this time and have been in contact with many students. We actively encourage students to contact their Tutor, Head of Year or Head of Sixth Form by email if they need any support whatsoever.

Year 12 Learning

A reminder that it is our clear expectation that Year 12 students must complete all work set. Subject Teachers set work every week on Show my homework for students to complete. Thank you to the vast majority of students for completing set tasks and engaging with this work. If any students are having difficulties in completing work for whatever reason please do contact by email your Teachers, Tutor or Head of Year so they can support you.

Year 12 Important Future Decisions

As from next week a weekly communication to Year 12 will follow with resources and links to help students who will soon be making important decisions about their future. This will include weekly Guidance materials and a UCAS road map and timeline. Our plan is to build up student understanding of the applications process for Universities and Apprenticeships. This would be a part of our usual guidance programme in the summer term.

Each week will try to focus on the following:

- Selecting appropriate pathways and courses
- Understanding how to apply to University and Apprenticeships
- Writing a Personal Statement - what a good one looks like
- Applying for medicine, Oxford and Cambridge master classes

We appreciate that selecting a course based on grades will be difficult. Our advice to students will be to select what they feel may be aspirational and secure in the grades they hope to achieve. Students have logins to a website called UNIFROG that has this feature. Furthermore, we feel that selecting the course first and foremost should be the priority.

In the first term of Year 13, students would be finalising choices for courses and for University. This involves applying through UCAS and writing a personal statement. Personal Statements can take upwards of 5 drafts and can be a potential stress point in Year 13. Where possible we ask that students start this process early and complete this in the summer term of Year 12 so that they are well placed to submit an early and competitive application in Year 13. We hope and expect that students will set aside some time to think about this in the coming weeks. For those completely unsure about their

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future please encourage them to contact their Tutor, Head of Year or Head of Sixth Form. All Tutors are contactable via email for any further help or advice.

These are new and challenging times for all of us as a school community. We hope that the materials provided by teachers are helping to support students with their learning and provide some structure to their days. The Guidance materials next week will also offer some extra support as students engage with their futures. We have a fantastic Sixth Form full of talented young people and we remain upbeat and positive about their future prospects. Please be re-assured that we are always here to support all of our students.

Yours sincerely



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