



Be inspired and achieve together

Wednesday 29th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re. Year 13 Information to Parents and Students

Please find below an update on matters relevant to Year 13 with some important information and recommended links to useful websites.

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. If any students need of additional support for whatever reason please do contact by email your Teachers, Tutor or Head of Year so they can support you.

Year 13

An abrupt, untimely Friday lunchtime in March with a few impromptu words was not the farewell we had planned for such a fantastic Year 13. However, we remain very proud of the individual achievements and success stories of so many students from a memorable year group. It really was a pleasure to work with so many talented young people who undoubtedly have bright careers and futures ahead of them. The planned Sixth Form Summer Ball in June cannot for obvious reasons take place. However, we will continue to explore ways in which we may celebrate together at some time in the future.

Year 13 Yearbook Update

A number of students have asked about the Year 13 Yearbook and Hoodies. The Yearbook is still going ahead, although some students have not filled out their page yet. The deadline for contributions is now Sunday 31st May 2020. All that needs to happen for the Yearbook to be completed is to go to the Yearbook website (see below) and complete the page by uploading photos and completing the relevant sections on your page. If you want a hoodie, please let the Editors/Student Council know. It would be fantastic to have a completed yearbook for such a brilliant year group. All Yearbooks will be delivered to school for collection/home-delivery from July.

A Level Grades

Please be reminded that all schools are required to provide key information to the exam boards who will then publish grades for A Level on Thursday 13th August 2020, the effective "results" day. Please remember grade and ranking information is confidential and teachers are not allowed to share this information with students or parents. Please do not ask teachers about grades as they are simply not allowed to share these with you.

Year 13 UCAS Applicants

The UCAS website has now been updated with helpful information about updates for University applications and entry for courses commencing in September 2020 and beyond. We ask students to make decisions around their firm and insurance University choices as they would under regular circumstances. There is a section on calculated grades and what this means for UCAS.

With making choices around firm and insurance choices, accommodation will be an important topic for many of you.

Arnold Hill Academy is part of the Spencer Academies Trust

Registered office: Arthur Mee Road, Stapleford, Nottingham NG9 7EW

The company's registered number is 7353824



It is best to check with the individual University accommodation providers, as many Universities have updated their websites to reflect the current situation. Some Universities are currently taking applications, whereas others are not. Lastly on making choices for University, some Universities are holding virtual open days. You can find a list of which Universities are hosting virtual open days below.

Year 13 Student Finance

Many of you will be looking to complete student finance applications, which remain unaffected, you can find updated information on the GOV website including a timeline of when to complete parts of the application. Due to the current situation, there may be some pieces of evidence regarding household income which cannot be submitted at this time. The Student Loans Company understands this and recognises that this evidence does not need to be submitted presently, but you may be notified if this requires updating. The Student Loans Company have partially closed their offices, they are still taking phone calls but it may take a little longer than normal to speak to someone, this is the same for applications; they are currently open and being worked through as fast as possible but this may take a little while longer than usual.

Apprenticeship Applicants

For those intending to complete an Apprenticeship from September 2020, whilst there has not been a blanket announcement on Apprenticeship recruitment, we would advise that you contact the places you have submitted applications or intend to submit applications to. There is some guidance already on the GOV website regarding current Apprenticeship training, this guidance will apply until further notice so that it may be the case elements of Apprenticeship training may be done remotely.

If you're already waiting to hear back, try to be patient, many companies and Apprenticeship providers have closed or partially closed call centres. The Government Apprenticeship website (ASK) has put together a resource page to support students and parents with Apprenticeship applications through this time (please see below). Mr Callaway will forward vacancies that come into school (e.g. recent ones from Virgin Media) to those students who he knows are seeking an Apprenticeship. Please check your e mails.

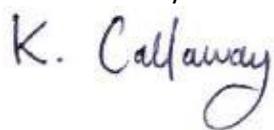
Transition from A Level to University and Employment

Staff continue to support students in their transition to Higher Education or employment by ensuring that study booklets and lesson resources have been shared with students and specification content has been covered. Many subjects have also signposted students to undergraduate level work, with reading material, news clips and references to specialist subject online resources. It is our expectation that Year 13 should continue to learn at this time and be proactive in accessing materials and recommended reading lists from their first and second choice University.

If there are any specific areas either academic or pastoral where students feel they need additional support they may of course email their Teachers, Tutor or Head of Year direct with any specific questions.

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 links below also offer some guidance 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

Mr Callaway
Head of Sixth Form

Ms Bacon-Clarke
Head of Year 13

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Useful Website links:

www.yearbook.com

UCAS

<https://www.ucas.com/search/frequently-asked-questions/coronavirus>

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/coronavirus-covid-19/what-does-mean-your-application>).

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/coronavirus-covid-19/calculated-grades-your-questions-answered>

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/ucas-application/the-smart-way-to-choosing-your-first-and-insurance-choices>

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and-digital?keywords>

Student Finance

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance/when>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-prospective-students>

Apprenticeship Applicants

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-Apprenticeship-programme-response/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-apprentices-employers-training-providers-end-point-assessment-organisations-and-external-quality-assurance-pro>

<https://amazingApprenticeships.com/parents/>

Resources for Students: <https://amazingApprenticeships.com/teachers/>

(note the link says 'teachers' but continue to scroll and resources for students are underneath)

Request support at Project ASK: <https://amazingApprenticeships.com/request-support/>