

26 March 2020

Dear Year 12 Students

These are exceptional times for everyone, not just for young people like you, and we all need to play our part. Make sure that first and foremost you are adhering to Government advice and guidelines on the current lockdown, social distancing and hygiene measures that protect us all. Do not put yourselves or others at risk of infection, it is vital that we all do our best to support key workers and help save lives. Your health and the health of family, friends and your community is paramount.

For Year 12 this is an uncertain time. You will all be going through different emotions as a result of the school closure and the prospect of missing out socially and educationally for any period of time is not ideal but we will get through this. The school and your teachers will be doing everything possible over the coming months to make sure that you are not disadvantaged as a result of home schooling but we need your full co-operation right now!

You must log into the learning platforms that we are using as a school (Google Classroom, Show My Homework etc) and you must complete and upload the work set for every single timetabled lesson. As you know, the exams for Year 13 this summer are cancelled and their final grades will be awarded by the exam boards with the teacher judgement from The Chalfonts Community College to support this. They will be awarded a grade which will reflect the work that they have put in thus far. Some students are regretting the lack of evidence to support their grade – weak mock grades, homework voids and attendance issues. This is why it is imperative that you continue to study. We will have exams for Year 12 as soon as is practically possible – so do not switch off.

Remember that there are hundreds of thousands of students in the same position as you; not that this will make you feel better; it will merely reassure you that you are not alone. The situation is unprecedented but we have to accept that events are outside our control but normality will return and your futures will be assured. As a nation we cannot afford for you not to go to university or not to have successful careers. As a school we want to ensure that you all have bright futures and that no-one is disadvantaged as a result of this international crisis.

We will still need to review your academic progress with Progression exams in the Autumn term, and make recommendations as to whether or not you are still able to progress into Year 13. Our default position is that everyone progresses seamlessly into Year 13 but it has to be based on solid foundations. If your exam results from these progression exams are weak and you have not been continuing your studies in the period of school closure, it will be hard to justify progress into Year 13. Your teachers will be assessing you during this period of school closure so make sure that you complete coursework, assessments etc on time to the best of your ability. We want you to carry on studying every lesson and uploading your work so that we have evidence of progress.

For those of you studying the NVQ Level 2 Beauty Diploma, please be mindful that you won't automatically receive a pass for this year, due to the fact the qualification is vocational. Expect to complete assessments and online exams at the beginning of Year 13 as these will provide us with information about your current progress. More details will follow via Mrs Rayner and the Beauty Team once we know more.



Please also take advantage of this time and enjoy learning for pleasure and leisure. Take a MOOC – a free Massive Open Online Course from Future Learn (www.futurelearn.com). The variety of courses is amazing and the choice is almost limitless. Choose a course that will help your career or simply enhance your general knowledge.

We also want you to read. Set yourself a reading challenge – a book a week - for pleasure. Do not underestimate the power of literacy and the impact that reading will have on your exams and futures. Project Gutenberg and Planet e Book are both free and great for classics and older texts out of copyright - www.Gutenberg.org or www.planetebook.com.

We hope that this letter will give you a bit of clarity in terms of expectations for the remainder of Year 12. Obviously, once we have more information from the Government/exam boards we will share this with you, but in the meantime, please continue to work hard and do the very best you can despite the challenging circumstances we are all facing.

Kind regards

Russell Denial
Principal

Victoria Lang
Vice Principal

