

## **Sixth Form Update 23.11.21**

Whilst the Year 13 students are busy considering options for their next steps after Sixth Form and their impending Mock exams; the Year 12 students have settled themselves into good study habits. It will be a busy few weeks in the lead up to the Xmas holidays and although the impact of Covid limits the celebrations we can have. We will definitely still be having the traditional Xmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day.

### **Year 13 Mocks**

Year 13 students will have their mock exams during the week commencing 6th December. Teachers will already have clarified what main areas students need to prepare for these. We want these to be as close to the real thing as possible, as I'm conscious that the students have not yet had a chance to sit a formal exam in their academic career and would like them to get as close an experience to the real thing as possible.

### **Evidence for TAGs**

Guidance has now been issued by Ofqual detailing what evidence would be required by schools to allow them to award students a Teacher Assessed Grade in the unlikely event that the exams are cancelled. Although at the moment this seems to be an unlikely possibility, we want to make sure that students have adequate evidence to support a grade in this circumstance. The guidance states that students should sit a formal assessment in each of the terms that leads up to the exams and that the assessment should emulate an exam paper for the subject. Our assessment policy means that students will be able to meet this criteria, however as they specify that students should all sit the same subject at the same time we have had to adjust some of the exam times on the MSN Sixth site.

Ofqual has written a letter to students to help to explain the plans:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/letter-to-students>

If you have any queries regarding the process or contingency plans please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### **University applications**

The deadline for University applications is the end of this term, Friday 17th December. Students need to have submitted this to their referee by Wednesday 15th December at the latest to ensure we are able to process this application by the deadline. I would encourage students to not leave their application to this late stage.

Students can access support from any day after school from Ms Barker-Starling, myself or Ms Oxley-hughes. We are also happy to meet parents and students should you wish to talk through the application process or would like further advice on options.

### **Mock interview for University**

We are able to offer students mock interviews if they wish to help them to prepare for ones at universities. They can arrange these by contacting Ms Barker-Starling or Ms Oxley-Hughes. Most university interviews now take place remotely and we would encourage students to do these from home. If this is not possible then we can arrange for a quiet location for them to complete this if needed.

### **Careers interviews reminders**

Students are able to arrange careers interviews with Ms Pascoe by either speaking to their tutor or contacting Ms Oxley-Hughes or Ms Barker-Starling.

There are also Career classrooms for students to access with lots of information and opportunities. They can be accessed by using the following codes:

**Year 12** ochkmv5

**Year 13** ccjio6t

### **UCAS Apprenticeship Fair**

Be inspired. Get advice. Find your perfect apprenticeship.

Join UCAS Discovery Apprenticeships Fair live 10:00 – 18:00 on 30 November 2021.

Students are able to attend this online fair by registering here:

<https://www.ucas.com/events/ucasdiscovery-apprenticeships-fair-404796>

- Meet and chat with big name employers including the NHS, PwC, and Rolls-Royce
- Discover popular apprenticeships and where they can take you
- Join live interview clinics and CV workshops
- Take part in Q&As with employers
- Get tips on how to ace your apprenticeship application
- Hear what it's really like from current apprentices
- Find out how to land your dream apprenticeship

### **University of Bath - Pathway to Bath**

We are so excited to announce that applications for our next intake of [Pathway to Bath](https://www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/pathway-to-bath-programme/) are open now! (<https://www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/pathway-to-bath-programme/>)

This blended curriculum enrichment programme for Year 12 students from Widening participation backgrounds offers students

- The opportunity to complete a project in a subject of their choice alongside academic tutors and undergraduate e-mentors
- A free 3 day residential at the University of Bath
- The chance to receive an alternative offer to the University of Bath

Students can apply [via the website now](#) and the deadline is 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### **Useful dates:**

Year 13 Parents Evening with subject teachers: **Thursday 3rd March 2022**

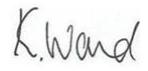
Year 12 Parents Evening with subject teachers: **Thursday 24th March 2022**

Year 13 Mock Exams: **Monday 6th December - Friday 10th December 2021**

Year 12 Mock Exams: **Start of Jan 2022** - dates to be confirmed.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Ward". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

K Ward

**Director of Sixth Form**