



Leventhorpe
a business and enterprise academy

17 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I do hope that this letter finds you and your families well and healthy in this strange new reality that we have found ourselves in.

Following on from the announcement on 3rd April regarding the awarding of grades to Year 13 students and the implications for setting work, I wanted to clarify a few things and, more importantly, to signpost students to online learning that would be of use as they prepare for the next stage in their education.

We will not be setting any curriculum centred work for Year 13 following on from the government advice on 3rd April. It has been made clear that any work set to students during the lockdown period is not to be considered when awarding grades and therefore to continue setting work would only be counter-productive to our students.

However, I fully appreciate that we do not want students to be disadvantaged in any way as they prepare for their next steps. I also feel that many students would benefit from being able to continue with a programme of study during this period to not only enhance their learning but also to provide routine and support with general wellbeing.

For students who have accepted unconditional offers and therefore know where they are going, I am advising the following:

- Get in touch with your university and ask if you can have access to the reading list for your chosen courses. Once you have this you can begin to get ahead and be prepared for when you do start. It would not be necessary to buy all books suggested so identify those that you would be expected to have for the start of the course and start there.
- Enrol on an online course in a field that you will be studying at university to give you a wider breadth of knowledge (see links below and paste them into your browser)

For students who do not know which university they will be attending (i.e. those with conditional offers) or those hoping to secure an apprenticeship:

- As above, pick an online course or lecture series to take part in that is connected to the field of study that you are interested in pursuing at university/within an apprenticeship.
- There are so many free courses available and some even offer certification. By pursuing an independent study option, you will be preparing for the academic rigour of post 18 education as well as ensuring you have a good knowledge base from which to start.

<http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses>

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/>

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>

<https://www.futurelearn.com/>

(students should already be familiar with this as we have used this in school)



Leventhorpe
a business and enterprise academy

<https://oyc.yale.edu/>

<https://www.mooc-list.com/countries/united-kingdom>

For students who have applied to university, the next step (if they have not already done so) is to accept their firm and insurance choice on UCAS via 'track'. The deadline for this has been slightly extended to the 19th May. If students are still undecided about their decisions, then it may be a good idea to fully explore the different university websites as many are providing virtual tours owing to visits not currently being able to take place.

Alongside the various courses already mentioned, there are also many opportunities to increase our cultural capital from the confines of our own homes. This can be useful as an escapism tool as well as to boost well-being. I posted a particularly good set of links for students to access various online sites ranging from opera to museum visits to learning a language! This is accessible on the Year 13 notice board on Teams and it's also saved as a pdf in the files section of the site.

As a Sixth form team we remain available to support all our students. There is a 'Year 13 notice board' on Teams as well as individual tutor group Teams which have been set up to provide information and advice. I do encourage all Year 13 to check in on these Teams as we are posting information relating to UCAS/university seminars etc as and when we receive it.

If students have any questions, then they can communicate directly with their tutors via the Teams system.

I wish you and your families the very best during this difficult time.

Kind regards,

Mrs Charlotte Crosby

Assistant Headteacher / Director of Sixth Form