



Kate Hackett, Cheney Sixth Form

30 April 2020

Dear Year 12 Students, Parents and Carers

Summer Term Update

I hope you are all managing to stay safe and well during these strange times, and are adapting to the new ways of working. We are now looking ahead - well as much as we are able - and starting to think about your next steps.

Year 12 Online Lessons

Some of you have been in touch to say that you would welcome the chance for more 'real' contact with your teachers. We are happy to let you know that we are starting some feedback, online and uploaded lessons. The main method of delivery will be through Google Hangouts, Google Classrooms or an uploaded link if the lesson is pre-recorded (e.g. Youtube).

There are bound to be some technical hitches at first and **it might not work for everyone from the first time** but we do not want any of our students, parents or carers to worry. If there is a problem, please let the class teacher know afterwards and if we need to get someone to give you a call at a later point to talk you through, we will.

Teachers will use Show My Homework to post a link to a virtual lesson. The link should be posted by the morning of the day the lesson is due to take place. If a link is not posted before the lesson, please don't worry: although we will try to avoid this, there could be unexpected issues with illness, Wi-Fi or childcare. You can always check with the Head of Faculty if you are not sure. Contact details are [here](#). Guidance for these was sent home last week but here is the link to the [instructions](#) again.

Students must have their camera and microphone turned off when they join the lesson: if they are all on, it is very hard to lead the lesson.

Year 12 Personal Statement and UCAS Preparation

We advise all Year 12s to continue to research university courses and apprenticeship applications on the internet. We have asked you to send an updated version of your Personal Statement to your Super-tutor. Please see Show My Homework for guidance. Once this is done, please focus on your academic work. Building on your work last term and the trip to the UCAS Convention, we will work in a more focussed way on your Next Steps from Monday 15 June onwards.

Year 12 Exams

We had always planned to deliver an exam week for Year 12s in the week beginning 1 June. We may move this exam week to later in the term or administer the exams remotely. Whichever way we end up delivering the exam week, we will ensure that the content you are tested on is clearly split into two sections - work done before lock-down and work done after lock down. We are doing this to ensure that we provide an equal opportunity for all students to do well, irrespective of their home working environment.

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Think for yourself, act for others

So, make sure that you are going to be ready for an exam week - start to get your revision plan sorted, if you haven't already done this, and get cracking. You have at least 5 weeks to prepare.

We know the results of these exams are really important for UCAS predicted grades and there will be a chance to improve on your performance before you apply for university.

Transition to Year 13

Your AP3 grades and learner characteristics, and your attendance data will all factor into your individual plans for Year 13.

- Most students will have a smooth transition to Year 13, having successfully completed Year 12, ready for the challenges ahead.
- Some students may continue on their courses in Year 13, with additional support for improving their attendance or certain learner characteristics.
- Some students may already be thinking about a different path, and may apply for apprenticeships or an alternative Sixth Form place in another setting.
- In a few cases students who have struggled with their courses and distance learning may be considered for a place in Year 12 again next year.
- In a few cases we may agree that it is better for you to concentrate on two subjects.

The Sixth Form team will be reviewing everyone's progress and attainment this year, and will work with you individually to put the best plan in place for you for the next academic year.

Work experience - 8 June to 12 June

I know that you have been doing a significant amount of work to organise your work experience, but as we still have no clear guidance about when we will be back in school, we have decided to cancel the dedicated work experience week this year. We think that businesses and institutions will find it challenging at the moment to host you and believe that if we are allowed back in school, it would be best to use that time for teaching. Please make contact with anyone who has agreed to take you for the week, requesting it to be postponed until the holiday. If they would still prefer you to keep to the planned week, please fill in an absence form and we will consider the request in the normal way.

Phone calls home

The Sixth Form team are working hard to keep in touch with you as much as possible while we are not able to be in school. If you would like someone to get in contact with you, please email SWR@cheney.oxon.sch.uk and she will arrange for someone to call asap. We can also still provide counselling support from the school counsellor and appointments with Caroline Smith, our School Nurse. Again, please contact Ms Warbrick and she will arrange a referral.

I hope you all stay safe and well. Students, please don't forget that we are here to help, should you need academic, mental health or general life support. We miss seeing all of you daily, but have been so impressed by your resilience, work ethic and positivity.

With all best wishes

Ms Kate Hackett, KH@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

