

Parents' Newsletter - May 12, 2020

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family well.

When will school return for Year 10 and Year 12?

Yesterday, new guidance was issued by the government on the re-opening of schools. This is not definitive and is subject to change but, based on this guidance, we expect to be able to offer some sort of return to school before the end of the Summer Term. This return will most likely be staggered as class sizes will be restricted. The key paragraphs are:

*'From the week commencing 1 June 2020 at the earliest, we will be asking primary schools to welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 6, alongside priority groups. We will ask secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of **year 10 and year 12 students** who are due to take key exams next year, alongside the full time provision they are offering to priority groups.'*

'This will not be a return to full timetables or pupils back in school or college full time, rather some support to supplement pupils' remote education. In line with implementing protective measures and reducing contacts, schools and colleges should limit the attendance of the year 10 and 12 cohort in the setting at any one time and to keep students in small groups as set out in our guidance.'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

At this stage, we would speculate that this could mean students returning on a rota basis: 50% one week and the other 50%, the next week. We will, of course, update you as we know more.

Online Lessons

As well as being clearly identified on Show My Homework as ONLINE LESSONS, we have now published a 'live' lesson programme [here](#)..... so that parents are aware of these sessions. This will be regularly updated. These lessons generally follow the school timetable.

Student engagement has risen significantly in the last week as more students have participated in these lessons. We are very grateful to staff who have adapted quickly to use the new technology and embraced the new challenges of teaching online. If students are having difficulty with any aspect of the arrangements, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the relevant member of staff - shown below.

Exercise Books

We appreciate that many students have now exhausted their stock of writing paper. We will arrange a suitable way to distribute more exercise books and will be in touch about this shortly.

Mock Exams

Year 10 and 12 will sit mock exams in the period from July 6 to July 17 and we have already timetabled these exams! Either these exams will take place as normal because we will be back at school or we will need to arrange the delivery of paper copies for students to complete at home.

Providing students with an aiming point of Summer Term exams should help motivate them and give us all with something to strive towards. It will also identify any gaps in learning so that we can hit the ground running in September.

Weekly Careers Bulletin

Please look out for our regular Careers Bulletin.

Safeguarding Arrangements for Video-Call

- To keep everyone safe, the following guidelines will apply to video-calls:
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the room
- Any computer/phones used should be in communal areas, not in bedrooms or bathrooms
- Live classes will involve teaching to small groups of students for up to 30 minutes.
- Staff will record the length, time, date and attendance of any sessions held.
- 1:1 sessions will only be used for the purpose of careers or personal advice.
- Normal classrooms rules and protocols will apply.

Welfare Calls - Year 10 and Year 12

The Pastoral Team are working hard to check in with all Year 10 and 12 families during this time of uncertainty and will continue to do so on a regular basis. These calls will come from a withheld number from the same member of staff each time.

As well as this, there will be a weekly well-being announcement made on Show My Homework every Monday. This will signpost students to any additional support that they may need, and there may even be a few challenges coming up, so please look out for those too!

Who to Contact?

During this period of school closure, we are unable to staff our Reception, so please email any queries, as follows:

For any **subject related queries**, please email your child's teacher. Staff email addresses follow the pattern of: **firstname.surname@utcn.org.uk**

For queries about the welfare of your son/daughter, please email:

Mr Piggott (Year 10 Lead): **aaron.piggott@utcn.org.uk**

Mr Hankinson (Year 11 Lead): **sam.hankinson@utcn.org.uk**

Mr Everett (Year 12 Lead): **james.everett@utcn.org.uk**

Ms Veale (Year 13 Lead): **hannah.veale@utcn.org.uk**

If the matter relates to a child protection or safeguarding matter, please contact Mrs Atkins, our Designated Safeguarding Lead: **ellie.atkins@utcn.org.uk** or telephone 0750 6481878.

If you have a concern about the quality of work set in a subject area, please contact the relevant faculty head:

English & Humanities (Mr Moralee): **luke.moralee@utcn.org.uk**

Mathematics and Computing (Mr Moyo): **edson.moyo@utcn.org.uk**

Engineering (Mr Attwell): **david.attwell@utcn.org.uk**

Science (Mr Vinters): **mark.vinters@utcn.org.uk**

If you have any queries about Show My Homework and its usage, please contact Mrs Palik: **emma.palik@utcn.org.uk**

Careers enquiries should be directed to Mrs Settle (Careers Facilitator): **beth.settle@utcn.org.uk**

If you have a concern about the way your query has been handled or are not satisfied with the outcome, please contact Mrs Sarah Jarvis, Assistant Headteacher: **sarah.jarvis@utcn.org.uk**

To make a complaint to the Headteacher, Alex Hayes, please write to **alison.howes@utcn.org.uk**

For any other queries, please contact: **office@utcn.org.uk**

Regards
Alex Hayes
Headteacher

Social Media

Please follow us on Twitter @utcnorfolk for quick information about the whole school and @UTCNKS4 for Key Stage 4 information.

Also, follow us on Instagram @utc_norfolk for UTCN updates.

Dates for your Diary

Please look on the UTCN webpage for the Parents Calendar which is updated regularly. <https://utcn.org.uk/calendar>

May 25 to 29 - Half Term
July 20 - School closes for the summer holiday

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Old Hall Road
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