

April 7, 2020

Hi everyone,

I know it's effectively Easter holidays, but with so many things changing and becoming different from what they have been for many years I wanted to continue to help you study, and support you in these uncertain times. You should also be taking this opportunity to keep working like you should be, but also helping at home, cleaning, tidying, helping siblings, offering to cook dinner. I'm sure many of you already are but just a nice reminder to those who may not have thought of this.

School work

Our rule of thumb in the Sixth Form is that students should undertake one hour of private study per hour of formal lesson. Under the present circumstances, that means that students should be endeavouring to complete about 10 hours per week of study per subject. If students are not doing this, they will fall behind. And, there is simply not enough time in the five terms of Sixth Form study to catch up a whole term.

So, despite the difficulties of the last few weeks, it has been really encouraging to see so many Year 12 students really embracing their studies. Keep it up! You'll be in a fantastic position when school resumes.

Sadly though, there do appear to be a small number of students who have so far not engaged with the challenge of the new working lifestyle. (We do know as we can see when students log on and submit/fail to submit work, largely via Show My Homework). This is a huge shame and will severely disadvantage them when classes resume. In fact, some students may fall so far behind, that it will become impossible to catch up on their studies.

Right now, all students should be focusing on the Summer exams which will take place at the end of June, as per the newsletter from Mr Hayes on Friday.

Now is a time of opportunity and a time to steal a march on other students in other schools who are not preparing as well as UTCN students!

Tools

Show my homework MUST be your go to for the work. It is fundamental you log in regularly and check if any further work has been set. Adapt, the app I mentioned last week, <https://getadapt.co.uk/> a great way to organise deadlines, revision and topics. It even has the engineering qualification on there.

University support (UCAS deadline 15th January)

The wonderful team at University of Hertfordshire have put together a fantastic range of information and advice on their website to help you through the initial process of University/Apprenticeship choosing. They cover the following areas:

- Why go to university?
- Degree Apprenticeships or full-time university?
- How to choose a course and university
- The UCAS application process
- Personal statements
- Student finance
- Preparing for university
- Budgeting

Thinking of studying Medicine? Please email me (james.everett@utcn.org.uk) direct for a wonderful PowerPoint created by our first leaver to head into studying Medicine at University, it includes the whole process from why to where to how with his own personal experience along the way, and lots of helpful advice.

Thinking of Cambridge, Oxford or Medicine? The deadline for UCAS applications is 20th October, instead. Meaning it is a lot sooner. Later in this academic year we will be emailing about what our expectations are, including personal statements, pre-entry examination preparation (late November) as well as interviews etc.

Careers et al

Miss Settle has been busy and has begun adding various content on the school library page including online museum collections. Have a look

<https://uk.accessit.online/unv04/#!dashboard>

Also Exact Editions have offered free access to ten digital magazines' back catalogues. Enjoy this ravishing selection of educational titles!

1. Visit the login page: <https://exacteditions.com/login>
 2. Select the "library card" option in the top right-hand corner.
 3. Enter the UTCN code 163181 into the "card number" bar and log in.
- Titles include Chemistry World, BBC History Magazine, Geographical, The Biologist and New Internationalist.

Coastal Energy Internships 2020 deadline has been extended to Thursday 23 April 2020 to give everyone a bit more time to complete applications. They are now considering running these as a remote working internship but we'll see how this goes nearer the time. Fantastic boost to your CV.

JEV

So I have managed to keep myself busy, my wife and I have been supporting the NHS on Thursdays at 8pm, our road has a lot of pots banging. We have continued to provide support to local vulnerable households picking up prescriptions and food. At home we have decided it is a great opportunity to have a big clean out and I've been clearing cupboards, building shelves and all sorts. We also continue to follow our rule of thumb of no tv before dinner, well except on Saturday, but I think once in a while is okay? Keep safe, stay in and as the Queen said, "we will meet again".

James Everett
Year 12 Lead

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>

April 6 to 17 - Easter Holidays
May 8 - Bank Holiday
May 25 to 29 - Half Term

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