

## **Parent/ Student Update 23.04.21**

It's great to have the students back in school and even better for students to be able to use the outside spaces. The Year 13 students have started their TAG assessments and they are working well towards these. Their tutors, Ms Oxley-Hughes and Ms Taggart are supporting students and it is important that students let us know if they need some additional support at this time. Ms Gretton, the Sixth Form Counsellor, is very skilled in helping students with dealing with the stresses and demands caused by studies; appointments with her can be arranged via Ms Taggart or Ms Oxley-Hughes.

### **Year 12 Assessments and end of year exams**

The Year 12 students are completing some informal assessments in lessons over the next few weeks. These will allow us to see where students may need some additional support and for teachers to inform their teaching in the coming term.

The Year 12 end of year exams will take place over a week in June. These will be the W/C 7th June at the MSN Sixth site and the W/C 14th June on the Wrihtlington and Mendip site. These will be taken under formal exam conditions as we feel that not having had the opportunity to sit exams last year we would like students to have the experience before their exams in Year 13. Teachers will let students know what they will cover over the next few weeks and we will be working on helping to prepare students for these in tutor time. Students need to achieve a D grade in the A Level courses and a Pass in the BTEC course exams to automatically progress into Year 13. If students don't achieve these, we will have a parental meeting to review the student's progress over the year to see if any adjustments are required before they enter Year 13.

### **Unifrog**

Unifrog is a fantastic resource which all students in the Sixth Form use. We are delighted that we are now able to offer parents access to this to enable you to support your children in preparing for their next steps. To register on Unifrog please go to [www.unifrog.org/code](http://www.unifrog.org/code) and enter the following code as part of the registration process. You then need to enter the following codes: **MIDSpaents** for MSN Sixth Form and **WRSCpaents** for Writhlington Sixth Form. These codes are valid until the **1st May 2021**. Unifrog have produced a short film about the resource for parents and this is available here:

<https://www.loom.com/share/1d856c8220f444faa653fd7f719db5c8>

### **Student Finance**

Students planning to go to university in September must complete their student finance applications if they have not already done so. These need to be completed by 21st May to ensure the finance is available for when students start university.

Students can apply here - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance>.

I have produced a video guide which is available on the website which takes you through the process: <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/crVoDh9nRf>

There are also some good resources on student finance here:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-undergraduate-student-loan>

<https://www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/student-finance-guidance-parents-and-partners>

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/student-finance/>

Students do not need to have chosen their final university options as they can change their final destination right up to the point they start in September. Unlike the UCAS process we do not have access to the applications so cannot reset passwords and also cannot see whether forms have been sent.

### **Covid Testing**

Students will receive their next testing kits this week and need to continue to test themselves twice a week logging their test and informing us immediately if the test is positive.

### **What to do if a positive test result is entered for a LFD by mistake**

Since last term the guidance has changed if someone enters their LFD test result online as positive by mistake. From now on if a lateral flow test result is negative but the student or staff member has entered the result as positive by mistake, NHS Test and Trace advise that the person takes a second lateral flow test straight away and enters the results for the second test on the NHS T&T system. As a result of having entered the first test as positive, the person will receive notification from NHS Test and Trace to isolate and have a follow-on PCR test. This advice will be over-riden by the second negative test **if taken on the same day**. You do not need to phone 119 as they will not be able to override the first test result.

### **Home testing kits for all**

Students will continue, for the time being, to receive home testing kits from school, however other members of the household are also able to have home testing kits; details of where these can be collected is available on this website:

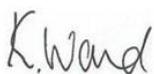
<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-everyone>

### **The Big Ask - a new national survey of children**

[The Big Ask](#), the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England, was launched by the new Children's Commissioner this week. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so the government can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the pandemic. The results will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve. Students will be completing this in tutor time next week.

The students are all really focused on their studies at the moment and are, as always, a credit to the Sixth Form. I would encourage them to let us know if they need any additional support this time.

Many thanks for your ongoing support



Mrs K Ward  
Director of Sixth Form