



Midsomer Norton
Sixth Form

Parent update Feb 2020 MSN

In light of the current situation regarding the Coronavirus, I would like to address a few concerns and practicalities:

IT access at home

In the event of a school closure we are preparing for the students to be able to access work via google classroom. Students should be members of a classroom for each of their subjects and work being set via the classroom is something that they should be used to on a regular basis. In the event of a school closure students should complete any work that is set via google classroom and follow the instructions of the teachers posted there. If they complete all of this then they should complete revision in preparation for their end of year exams for Year 12 and the for the summer exams for Year 13. Teachers will have posted past exam questions or links to these in their classrooms and if students submit work will endeavour to mark them for the students.

Year 13 Mocks

Obviously we are still planning for the Mock Exams to go ahead in April. These are a vital opportunity for students to have a final practice of exam technique and to ensure they are fully prepared for the summer exams. If we are in a position where the school is closed then our intention is for the exams to be released via google classroom to match the mock exam timetable and for students to complete these at home. Year 13 students will be invited to a classroom where the exam papers will be released and they need to join this before the end of the week. The classroom code for them to use is e3j3rdf. Obviously we will update you as the situation progresses.

The Mock Exam letter will be sent out this morning detailing how these arrangements will be set out if the mock exams go ahead. The exam timetable is attached and if the exams are released remotely then we will adhere to the timetable.

Year 13 Parents Evening/ Next Steps Evening cancelled

We are cancelling large gatherings to a minimum at this current time so have cancelled Year 13 Parents' Evening and have postponed the Year 12 Next Steps Information Evening for parents until May. We have talks and workshops planned to encourage students to decide on their path after Sixth Form in the summer term, so feel it would also be fitting to hold this information evening for parents around the same time in order to help you to support students in making such important decisions. This will obviously be reviewed nearer the time.

Assemblies

These will be held in tutor groups for a while to reduce the number of students together at any one time. Tutors will be sent resources to hold assemblies for students so that students continue to receive the quality of information & support necessary during Sixth Form.



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Cardiff UCAS convention

At the moment UCAS are planning to go ahead with this event which we have booked for all Year 12 students on 24th April. Details will follow in a separate letter at some point this week. We will of course keep you updated with any information we receive from the organisers.

Trip abroad

The Year 12 History trip to Auschwitz has been cancelled; we will inform parents of these students as we receive further information. In addition, the last two Access to Bristol sessions have been cancelled for this term; we will inform parents of any other trips that may be cancelled as we receive further information.

Self -Isolation

As per government guidelines anyone showing signs or symptoms of the Virus should self -isolate for 7 days. We are asking for parents to inform the Sixth Form of this absence. If the students inform us then we will be phoning you to confirm.

Precautions

Please refer to the latest update from Mr Williams, CEO, for details of precautions schools must take at the moment, including increased and thorough handwashing, and self-isolation upon presentation of any symptoms related to Coronavirus/COVID-19. We are encouraging students to wash their hands both at break time and lunchtime to ensure they are minimising the chances of the virus being passed on. Obviously soap supplies are being checked regularly but students are using a larger volume of soap than on a normal basis, so students must inform a member of staff if the soap runs out so that this can be replenished as soon as possible.

If you have any concerns or queries, as always, please don't hesitate to get in touch. I can be contacted on kward@msnsixth.com