

27th March, 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please see below a summary of recent events and plans around study leave, UCAS and work experience.

Jess Fennell:

On Monday 6th March we were extremely proud to welcome back alumnus Jess Fennell to speak to Year 12 and 13 students about studying Psychology at university. Jess left in 2015 with A*s in Psychology and History and an A in Geography.

Apprenticeship Fair:

On Monday 6th March a number of students attended the Leeds Apprenticeship Fair at the First Direct Arena. Although busy, the students found it very useful.

Oxbridge futures event:

On Friday 17th March a group of Year 12 students attended an Oxbridge futures event hosted by Selwyn College, Cambridge in which students were given advice around applications and colleges.

Pharmacy:

On Tuesday 21st March Diane Butterworth from the University of Bradford admissions team spoke to students about routes in to pharmacy at university. The sessions included a number of practical elements, most shockingly a muscular injection!

Yoga:

Thursday evening yoga has proved extremely popular and will continue in the same slot after Easter. The course is run by Bella from 'Yoga in You' and is part of our commitment to stress prevention and wellness. Bella is keen to run additional sessions, including boys. For information see Mr Brennan.

Sign language course:

Almost 20 students have signed up to an 'Introduction to Sign Language' online course run by www.british-sign.co.uk. Places are still available. Letters are available from the year office.

Progression Module:

A number of students have recently begun the Progression Module. It is run by Leeds Beckett University and is the equivalent of an AS grade C (12 UCAS points) for undergraduate course applications at Leeds Beckett, Leeds Trinity and Huddersfield University. Should you wish for your son/daughter to enrol on this qualification please do not hesitate to contact me.

5-a-side football tournament

Alongside the weekly yoga sessions and Mr James's quiz, over 60 students are currently taking part in a 6th form 5-a-side tournament. This Wednesday sees the second round of group matches. The top two from each group go forward to the knockout stages. The final will take place on May 10th.

Mentor meetings:

Achievement leader meetings began on March 13th March. Students will have a series of meetings with their Achievement Leader regarding their progress, revision and readiness for the exam period. These will be ongoing up to the summer exams.

Tuesday tutor time intervention:

From 21st March we replaced extended tutor time with a series of subject intervention sessions for almost all students in Year 12 and 13. These will run up until the summer exam period.

PPE results:

On Friday 24th March all students received their March PPE results. These are the best indication of their progress to date. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding this.

Exam timetables:

All students now have their full summer exam timetables.

Study leave:

Year 12: Study leave will be from Friday 13th May to Thursday 15th June for students with external AS examinations. On Thursday 15th June we will launch our UCAS program with Year 12 students and on Friday 16th June we will attend a UCAS convention in Sheffield. Students who study BTECs will need to remain in school during this time to ensure all tasks are completed.

Year 13: Study leave will be on Friday 27th May. After this time teachers may invite students to come into school for additional support and intervention sessions.

UCAS:

We would encourage all Year 12 students to use any free time from now until returning from study leave to investigate their post-sixth form options, including university choices, apprenticeships and other viable alternatives. On Tuesday 4th July we will host a 'Higher Education Information Evening' for parents and carers. Further information will follow. Parents can access UCAS guidance from this link:

<https://www.ucas.com/file/49766/download?token=Gnw5KGh5>

Work experience:

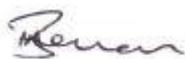
We encourage all Year 12 students to organise their own work experience placement relative to their preferred university course or career. This can be done in the last week of the summer term (17th-21st July). Should you need further guidance on this or wish to choose alternative dates please do not hesitate to contact me.

And finally, a note of caution:

I outlined in a recent assembly changes in the law regarding the use of mobile phones whilst driving. The law introduced on 1st March states that if you are caught using a mobile phone whilst driving, you will get 6 penalty points on your licence and a fine of £200 – for new drivers, this will mean an automatic disqualification and instant driving ban.

Should you wish to contact me for further information on any of the above please do not hesitate to do so.

Kind regards,



Mr M Brennan
Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head teacher

