

Thursday 30 April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Year 12 Work Experience

I hope that you and your families are well during this difficult period and are able to make the most of the additional time you are spending together.

Thank you for supporting your child with their academic studies on top of everything else you are no doubt juggling. I am confident that you continue to echo to them the importance of staying on top of their A Level work in order to not fall behind. I encourage all students to stay in close contact with their teachers, should they be struggling to meet deadlines. I know that staff will be understanding of individual situations, providing that students continue to liaise with them on a regular basis.

As you are aware, we had planned for students to undertake a week of work experience, Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July 2020, as part of their Year 12 Programme of Study. A number of students had already arranged and confirmed their plans for this week. As the future situation with regards to lockdown / return to school remains unclear, we cannot currently offer a great amount of clarity as to what will happen during this week. There are various possibilities and we will try and be as accommodating as possible to individual students:

1. **If** students are back in school, those who arranged a meaningful placement and submitted the appropriate paperwork with confirmation details received from the employer will be fully supported as normal.
2. **If** students are back in school and had not managed to arrange a placement, there will be no requirement to do so and students will stay in school engaging with their studies.
3. It is highly likely that some companies will no longer be able to honour placements offered and students will therefore stay in school engaging with their studies, **if** we are open again. Likewise, students may choose to cancel their placement in conversation with the company they have arranged it with should they so wish.
4. School **will not** be open and therefore students must stay at home as directed by the government.

In the meantime, Mrs Allen has emailed and posted lots of virtual work experience opportunities to our social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter). We would strongly encourage students to do at least one of these during their enrichment / independent study time. Some internet research would likely generate further virtual opportunities or students could complete a Future Learn course relevant to their current Higher Education / Career aspirations. A popular question in future interviews for some time will surely be centred around 'what did you do during the Covid19 lockdown in 2020?'. As a Sixth Form team we are in discussion about what we can offer further to our students once we return to school in terms of enhancing employability skills. Mrs Howard, Head of Year 13 and our UCAS

Coordinator, will be in touch in May regarding how we intend to introduce and support our students with their next destinations research and preparations.

I would like to be clear that we still have no further guidance on when school will reopen. This communication should not be taken as an indication that that school will be open again ahead of the summer, it is purely a courtesy update.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me via enquiries@alderbrooksixthform.org.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frankie Bryan', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Mr Frankie Bryan
Head of Year 12