

4 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome from the Sixth Form Pastoral Team

It is certainly a huge relief to us all to be welcome your children back to on-site education once more. We will all benefit from being 'co-located' in the classroom again – long may it last! As you will have been reading from the Headmaster's mailings we have made a Covid secure workplace and for the Sixth Form, this means Y12 and Y13 will be treated as a 'bubble group', enabling them to share the Sixth Form spaces like the Common room and the Learning Resource Centre Silent Study space. There is an altered timetable in place to allow safe entrance, movement around the site, and then exit from College by different bubble groupings. This information is contained in the Headmaster's communication last Friday, but the main effect for Sixth Form is that the College day begins at 0940, straight into lessons. Form time will instead take place at the end of the day and ends at 1630. Forder time will then be after that, should students take that option up. We ask that students do not arrive at College before 0940, unless by prior arrangement via communication with the Heads of Year, Mr Scambler or Ms Rich, respectively. There are also sanitization routines in place and the required use of face coverings in corridors and for use outside the College in more public environments. Students will be given fob identity and door entry badges, and they do need to carry these with them every day while on-site. Please help ensure that the students have their own masks, hand sanitiser, water bottle and that they carry their identity badges at all times: we may have to send them home early otherwise. Please note that if you have children across different year groups we can support with supervision for staggered drop off. Please get in touch if you would like more information here.

Year 12- Head of Year Mr Scambler

I really enjoyed welcoming Year 12 back into the building today, as well as meeting new faces, and I am looking forward to helping them settle into old – and new – routines over the coming weeks. Undoubtedly the jump from GCSE to A Level is a challenge, and this year, though it has been exceptional in every other way, will not be so in this regard. The tutors and I look forward to guiding them through their academic and personal growth over the next two years, and are pleased to be working with such a talented and motivated group!

Year 13- Head of Year Ms Rich

We are really pleased to welcome Year 13 back into the building after such a long pause, and we look forward to hitting the ground running! Our main priority over the coming term will be to help them finalise their UCAS and other post-16 applications. Students will receive a great deal of support from staff across the school at both our rapidly approaching UCAS II consultation evening, and with their personal statements and references. We are used to life operating in a different way, and we expect there will be differences in their experience of Sixth Form this year compared to last year. However, we know this cohort are strong and will rise to the challenge, and we can't wait to see them on Monday!

Please note the Year 13 form rooms are as follows. Year 13 should go to this room first thing on Monday morning at 0940.

13F 261 (DT)
13G 206 (Art)
13H 308 (Psych)
13I 243 (Biols)
13J 309 (MFL)
13K 224 (History)
13L 255 (Chem ICT)

Mindset for Success

With both Year 12 and Year 13 students, we are dedicating some of our tutorial periods to working on setting up systems for organized and independent study and on setting goals and maintaining a positive, can-do attitude. We know from student feedback that the jump from GCSE to A Level study (and indeed university study) can be a challenging one to negotiate as teachers/tutors expect increasing independence and self-direction. We hope that discussing these challenges openly and working on solutions as a group will assist our students both in their study and in their subsequent search for employment.

In the next days you will be receiving an email from your son or daughter's form tutor to introduce themselves. They remain your first port of call for routine discussions affecting your child and can be most easily reached by email. Beyond that, you are always welcome to contact the Sixth Form pastoral team for further advice and support on the details below.

Mr A Brewer	Head of Sixth Form	abrewer@stdunstans.org.uk
Mr T Scambler	Head of Year 12 & Oxbridge	tscambler@stdunstans.org.uk
Ms N Rich	Head of Year 13 and Careers	nrich@stdunstans.org.uk
Ms E Partridge	UCAS & Higher Education	epartridge@stdunstans.org.uk

We hope that you and your child have an enjoyable Michaelmas term and look forward to meeting you at one of this term's events.

Important dates for your diary:

<i>Tuesday 17 September</i>	Y13 UCAS II evening
<i>Monday 21 September (all week)</i>	Y13 mini-platform tests
<i>Monday 28 September (all week)</i>	Y12 mini-platform tests
<i>Tuesday 29 September</i>	Y12 Meet the Tutors evening event
<i>Friday 25 September</i>	Oxbridge and medics early application <u>internal</u> deadline
<i>Tuesday 15 October</i>	Oxbridge and medics early application <u>external</u> deadline
<i>Thursday 19 November</i>	Y13 Scholars' Symposium
<i>Monday 2 – Friday 6 November</i>	Y13 Benchmark Week
<i>Monday 9 – Friday 13 November</i>	Y12 Benchmark Week
<i>Tuesday 1 December</i>	Y13 Parents' Evening
<i>Thursday 10 December</i>	UCAS internal deadline
<i>Friday 15 January 2021</i>	UCAS external deadline
<i>Thursday 11 February</i>	Y12 UCAS I evening
<i>Monday 22 – Monday 29 February</i>	Y13 Trial Examinations Week
<i>Monday 1 March – 5 March</i>	Y12 Benchmark Week
<i>Tuesday 16 March</i>	Y12 Parents' Evening
<i>Friday 26 March</i>	Diploma Graduation Ceremony

Friday 21 May

Mon 7 June – Friday 11 June

Mon 14 June – 18 June

Saturday 3 July

Y13 Leavers' Day

Y12 End of Year exam week

Y12 Work Experience week

Sixth Form Ball

I realize this is a long way in the future (or at least, it feels that way now!), so there will be more updates closer to the time.

Yours sincerely



Mr Brewer
Head of Sixth Form



Mr Scambler
Head of Year 12



Ms Rich
Head of Year 13