



Trinity Sevenoaks
Seal Hollow Road
Sevenoaks
TN13 3SL

☎ 01732 469 111

@ office@trinitysevenoaks.com

🌐 trinitysevenoaks.org.uk

Tuesday 15th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 12 & 13 Update

I thought I would send a joint letter this time to both Year 12 and 13 students and parents as Year 12 have completed a third of the year and from next term thoughts will be turning to end of year exams at Easter and taking the reins from the Year 13 Prefect Team including the appointment of a new Head Girl and Boy and Deputy Head Girl and Boy.

Covid 19 Precautions – This continues to be something all staff and students need to be aware of and wearing of masks, social distancing and regular hand washing/sanitizing is still the norm for the foreseeable future. We have also separated the study centre so Year 12 and Year 13 are now on separate sides of the room and use separate doors to enter. They also queue on opposite sides of the food hatch at break and lunch times.

EPQ – Year 13 are in the final throes of their projects and are writing final reports and planning their presentations. This has been invaluable to many students, especially those applying through UCAS as some students have had lower offers from Universities because they have a high-quality project. For example, if the course they are applying to requires grades AAB they might lower this to ABB because of the EPQ. This is not always the case, but we are seeing a number doing this. This all means that if Year 12 can make headway with their projects in Year 12 and get them completed, they will be in a great position when applying for their chosen University course in Year 13.

UCAS – Year 13 are completing their final applications to their choice of Universities and these will all be ready by the Christmas break. We have had 5 students apply to either Cambridge or Oxford and 3 make it through to interview. The remaining students' list of choices and conditional offers is impressive including just about the full range of Russell Group Universities (The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK universities). Preparation for Year 12 starts after Easter and will continue through the Summer with extra reading and work placements in preparation for making strong applications. In our experience, students with the strongest application and the highest chance of success have gone further in their studies by completing an EPQ, finding work placements relative to the degree they want to study and reading over and above their course texts for their A Levels. There will be much more about this in the summer term for Year 12 to get their teeth into.

Each Year 12 will have the chance of a careers interview to support them with making decisions about their future. Before the end of the year, every Year 12 and 13 will have an interview with Dr Pawson to gain experience of this type of situation. Last Friday Rebekah Shaxted was our Friday speaker. She is from KATO Training [The Kent Association of Training Organisations] who represent the major Training Providers in Kent and Medway, supporting the interests of over 60 member organisations who deliver a variety of training programmes, including Apprenticeships, bespoke training and business training. She delivered a talk and answered questions to Year 12 and those Year 13s not going to University. This is all part of the ongoing careers



programme that both Year groups go through during our Sixth Form PSHE schedule. There will be more to come.

Work Experience – Given the current situation and the lack traditional work experience placements being available, we are changing the way we do this for Year 12. We are encouraging students to arrange their own work experience placements to fit their post Year 13 pathway. We are asking Year 12 to make these plans in term 5 and 6 (after Easter). Such placements are vital in being able to add to a UCAS or apprenticeship application as it shows a commitment to this pathway. The placements might be separate blocks of 2 or 3 or even single days for example rather than trying to fit it all to 1 week. We are not limiting the total time to 5 days but clearly, we will work with the students to make sure if more than 5 days is available that any experience will be worthwhile and will benefit them in the long term. More details will follow but students need to start arranging something from this point forward. End of Year 12 exams are the week before Easter so these won't be affected but students will need to catch up on any work missed during their placements.

Key Dates

- Year 13: December 18th – School UCAS deadline for all students
- Year 12: Week beginning 25th January – Assessment week for all subjects
- Year 13: February 22nd – second and final round of PPEs
- Year 12: March 1st – Prefect Leadership Team and Prefects application process begins
- Year 12: End of Year exams 24th May (tbc)
- Year 13: Easter 2021 – final preparation for A Level exams
- Year 12: After Easter break - Work Experience placements to take place
- Year 13: Final A Level exams begin 7th June (final exams 2nd July – see individual timetables for exact dates)
- Y13 Prom – June 2021 (tbc)

Yours Sincerely

Mr R Shaw
Head of Sixth Form

