



Seahaven Academy

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Part of United Learning

1st May 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers and Year 11 Students

I hope that you are managing to keep safe and well at home and that you are finding ways of making this period of school closure and lockdown as bearable as possible. I am sure that for some of our students the lack of structure to the day and the fact that teachers aren't nagging them constantly about their work may be a welcome relief, but we know that for many others this huge change to our routine and expectations has been quite a shock. We have been really impressed by the amount of contact that we have had with our year 11 students either through submitting tasks on Show My Homework or just keeping in touch with members of staff via email and the 'safe and well' contact made by tutors and pastoral staff.

We are very keen that year 11 students do not feel that we have forgotten about them during this period of school closure, so I am writing to you to outline the provision we will be making over the next few weeks. I know that some schools are no longer providing learning materials for year 11 students as the exams would have been starting next week given the normal calendar for the year, but we want to be able to keep in touch with all our students until such a time as we would have parted company, which for year 11 is the end of June. We will then still have a full programme of events for them as promised, including new arrangements for a year group trip and the Prom, but these will be later in the year.

Starting on Monday 4th May, we will be providing a different style of learning for year 11 students. We know that some students and their parents/ carers may not want to take part in this programme, but we hope that most will, mostly because this is an excellent opportunity to get ahead in terms of post-16 study, but also because as my own children have reluctantly told me, the days in lockdown pass much more quickly if you have things to do! So from Monday onwards, we will have the following in place for year 11 students:

1. Lessons will no longer be set by all subjects for all students on an hourly basis but instead there will be a project for the week. This may be some extension tasks, links to things to watch or listen to, reading, research or activities around topics not covered for the exams... anything which may be of interest to students who are interested in learning more about the subject but who may not be thinking about A level.
2. Maths and English 'deliberate practice' activities will still be available for students who want to continue to 'top up' these skills. This will consist of additional Hegarty Maths links and work based on an extended GCSE-style English programme.
3. A Post-16 booklet will be available for all students on the school website. Hard copies will be posted home. This booklet covers a huge range of activities to bridge the gap between year 11 and post-16 study. Mr Hafernik has been busy researching as many college courses as possible and has been in touch with lots of local providers who are very keen to support our year 11. There are



Principal Sarah Pringle

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4. course related links and activities, general preparation activities and links to some excellent courses we have been offered to help students prepare for September. There will also be a suggestion for a timetable to the week which may be useful for those students who find it difficult to structure the days at the moment.
5. A year 11 bulletin will be sent home each week - probably Wednesdays - with additional suggestions for activities including some online social activities for keeping in touch with one another and competitions, tutor time- style activities.
6. Tutors will check in with all of their group each week to see how they are and ask what they are currently doing work- wise and whether they need any support.
7. Staff are still available for students and families to contact at any point if they need any support:
 - a. Mr Haferník for general year 11 issues
 - b. Mr Newnham- Reeve for exam/ grade related issues
 - c. Mrs Thomas for pastoral/ safeguarding concerns
 - d. Subject staff for subject- specific questions
 - e. The office is you want to contact any of us directly, but please be aware that it is sometimes taking longer than usual to return a call/ email.
 - f. Free School Meal vouchers will remain in place.

After the May half term holiday, all of the above will still be in place apart from 1. Subject staff will add to the Post- 16 booklet, but will no longer set projects on Show My Homework.

We know that many students are already looking ahead and working on preparing themselves for college life. We had some very enthusiastic responses to Mr Newnham-Reeve's email to all year 11 students yesterday asking what our students have been doing and how they were. We are still regarding year 11 students and their families as needing to be fully provided for until the end of June, as with all other year groups, so if there is anything we can do to help support you during this period please get in touch. Although the style of work will change for year 11 over the next few weeks, all other aspects of the school remain here you.

With very best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Pringle
Head Teacher