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Director of Sixth Form: Mr Mark Henman

Budmouth
SIXTH FORM

July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer and Year 12 student

Thank you for your support this year. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy holiday, but also to outline one or two important things to bear in mind for next year:

- **Level 3 results** will be available on **Thursday 15 August from 9.00am** in the HUB. **GCSE retake results** are available the following **Thursday 22 August**. If any parent or student wants to touch base with the Sixth Form Team someone will be around on these days and on **Friday 16 and 23 August from 9.00 – 12 noon in room F13.**

- **Sixth Form Registration Day is on Wednesday 4 September**. Only Year 13 and 14 students who have been invited, or who wish to change something about their programme of study, need attend Registration Day; they should go to the Hub Avenue at 11.15am to register. Lessons will commence on **Monday 9 September**.

- If students have been receiving Bursary payments, please remember to reapply at the start of the Autumn Term. If you think you may be entitled to Bursary Payments, Free School Meals or both, please see Mrs Cockings for a form and make an application.

- Next Year's Tutor consultation evening is on **Thursday 26 September** should you wish to make an appointment to see your son/daughter's Tutor at the start of the year.

- There will be a real focus on completing Personal Statements for either UCAS or other types of application during September and October in Year 13. Remember the deadline for Oxbridge and Medical Applications is 15 October and **Budmouth's deadline for other applications is Monday 4 November (just after half term)**. I hope students will continue to take up opportunities which will enhance applications throughout this summer! The introduction of an E & T (Employment and Training) programme had a very successful start last year. This is designed for students choosing not to go on to university

- On behalf of the student's own Union Executive, can I make a plea for all students to pay their enrichment contribution of £15 **(£5 for those who paid in Year 12**) promptly at the start of term. The money is used by the student union to organise events, in particular the Leaver's Dinner. Next year it will also go towards purchasing each student a Budmouth College diary. Also, Year 13s should be reassured that their contribution will be recouped in the reduced price of their Leaver's Dinner ticket at the end of the year!

Improving Standards

I think we can do even better next year in terms of raising standards. Our expectations in terms of attendance, appearance and use of time are going up as Year 13 begins. I am enclosing a copy of both our Dress Code and our Part time Work Policy; which will be more strictly enforced next year.

A huge part of success at Sixth Form level comes from students valuing independent study time and time spent in lessons equally.

PTO

Over any given period, students should be trying to at least match the numbers of hours they spend in lessons with time spent studying independently. A Levels are designed to be studied in this way, but unfortunately some students, even at the end of Year 12, are still tempted to see time free from lessons as an opportunity to be doing something else rather than study. The government's requirement that all full time students are in attendance for a minimum of 600hrs a year, and our own attendance and part time work policy (enclosed), are designed to reduce this temptation and encourage students to study productively in their free time. **Students should return to college on the 9 September with the enclosed Part-time Work Policy signed please and return it to their tutor.**

We encourage both students and parent/carers to continue to let us know if a student is likely to be away, but it is important to note that the 95% attendance threshold we expect includes illnesses and foreseen absences not associated with college life. Therefore, texts and letters will be sent home even if college is aware of the reason for any absence. Please emphasise to your son/daughter that good attendance is proof of reliability and is the first thing employers ask us for when seeking references.

Year 12 have been expected to be in college from 8.35am – 2.45pm every day; this will also apply to Year 13s until they have completed their "Next Step" applications to the satisfaction of their tutor. After this, all Year 13s and 14s will be permitted to leave college once afternoon registration is complete if they have nothing timetabled, but must attend from 8.40am – 2.15pm.

All students are expected in all registration periods, making the monitoring of the 95% threshold outlined above much more straightforward, but more importantly, being required to be at both am and pm registrations will ensure that students are avoiding any distractions to studying from 8.40am to at least 2.15pm each day.

Finally, I would like to wish all students an enjoyable, productive summer. We look forward to continuing to work with you all next year.

Yours sincerely

Mark Henman
Director of Sixth Form

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