

8th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 11 Students

I hope that you are all keeping well. I am writing to you to confirm what is happening regarding transition into Sixth Form for those students who are continuing into Year 12 at Budmouth, but also, to let you know what is on offer to **all students** in the form of "Next Step" guidance. You are all still very much part of the Budmouth community and will remain so, no matter where you intend to be in September.

If you have already applied for Sixth Form, offer confirmation letters and other paper work, including tutor group request forms, are being sent out from 13th May. Please get this paper work back to us as soon as possible after you receive it so we can get your Chrome Book ordered for the beginning of the next academic year. For any of you still considering Sixth Form, our application process remains open to you right up until our Registration Day in September. Just contact me on the email below for more information.

As Mr Herbert mentioned in his letter dated 27th March, from May half term subject areas plan to involve students in some work which will help bridge the gap between Level 2 (GCSEs) and Level 3 (A Level and Vocational qualifications). Current circumstances present us with an opportunity to do more than normal with our "new" Year 12s and make really good use of the final half term as well. Ironically, this would mean that although the students have not actually taken their GCSE exams, they will be even better prepared to hit the ground running in September. Sixth Form applicants will be invited, by email, to join Google Classrooms in the subjects that they have applied for before the end of May.

Mr Miles (Director of Careers) will also be setting up a Google Classroom for all of Year 11 which we can use to target Next Step information to groups of students depending on what their plans are. All Year 11s will be able to use this platform to ask questions about their own Next Step plans. In addition, we are fortunate to have the Web based platform [Unifrog](#) available to all students. We will be directing students to use this via the Next Step Google Classroom, but please don't wait for us. Unifrog has some excellent guidance on it and not all institutions have access to it; so students, take advantage of it while you can.

I really understand, both as a parent and as Director of Sixth Form, the frustration that Year 11s are feeling at the moment. Having goal posts not just moved, but taken away to be replaced by something else, can understandably be demotivating. However, as Mr Herbert and Mr Bartlett alluded to in their March letters, it is important to remain busy and upbeat in order to take opportunities which may arise. Hopefully, we will all be back together soon. But in the meantime, myself, Baron Miles our Director of Careers bmiles@budmouth-aspirations.org, Marcel Ciantar our Director of our Centre of Excellence mciantar@budmouth-aspirations.org, and Sally Baker our Careers Advisor careershub@budmouth-aspirations.org are all available to all Year 11 students. They would be delighted to hear from you.

Yours sincerely



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