



Tuesday 6th October

Dear Parents & Guardians

Many thanks to all of you for your ongoing patience and support to the start of this academic year. All students in Y12 and Y13 are now settled into their lessons and the new normal.

Following a challenging start to the term due to COVID-19 I wanted to take the opportunity to provide you an update to you as parents. We are following the guidance from Public Health England and I'm sure you are aware that this has resulted in Y13 being sent home to isolate and individual classes isolating as directed. All students who are asked to isolate should be issued with an email and a letter detailing their return to school date.

### **Update for Year 12**

Firstly the Y12 parents induction evening has been cancelled due to COVID-19, but you should now be able to access a virtual event which has been shared via the website. This is an interactive powerpoint that details key information regarding the 6th Form. Please take the time to sit down with your son/daughter to go through this, it should take no longer than 40mins.

Majority of Y12 students should have now completed their online CATS tests. These are cognitive ability tests that ALL Y12 students undertake to help us gather information, they are nothing for students to worry about, and are used to help set target grades for 6th Form. These MUST be completed by Thursday 8th October - failure to do so will mean they have to stay after school on Thursday to complete them. If students are struggling with login details they are to contact [6thform@speters.org.uk](mailto:6thform@speters.org.uk).

Thinking about university? Most universities are now offering online virtual open days, we strongly encourage students to start to access these, so that they start to get an understanding of what different universities have to offer.

### **Update for Year 13**

The UCAS process should now be well underway for the majority of Y13 students. All students were sent a step by step guide to completing their UCAS application before the summer holidays. ALL students will have 1-2-1 meetings with a member of the 6th form team to complete final checks on their UCAS application and get them sent off. Students need to have completed their application to the best of their ability by Friday 23rd October. This is to give staff and students the time to meet and make any appropriate amendments to their application and personal statements. Students applying for Oxbridge, Veterinary, Medicine and Dentistry have until the 15th October to complete their applications. Virtual meets have already been undertaken for these students. If students wish to apply for a student loan then the student finance window has opened. Students need to follow the link for information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/students-can-apply-now-for-2021-student-finance>

Apprenticeships, students should still complete a personal statement which they can use when applying for apprenticeships. Unlike UCAS there is no central hub for apprenticeship applications. If students are thinking about apprenticeships then they will find the following links useful to them;

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships>

If they need any further information and support please contact the 6th form team.

### Update for All students

Every MONDAY Miss Edwards will be sending a weekly update to Y12 and Y13 - via google classroom, outlining key things that need to be done and or addressed for their year group. Can we suggest that you make the time to go through the weekly update with your son/daughter every week.

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 and groups of students isolating and/or local lockdowns, should there be any further lockdowns there will be online virtual lessons as well as google classroom set up for every subject and teacher.

Cover lessons, if for some reason your teacher is not in school then cover work will be set and a cover teacher provided. Students should attend ALL lessons as normal.

Finally the SIMS app, there is a letter going out this week to ALL parents form Y7-Y13 for parents to sign up to the SIMS app. This will mean you have access to your son/daughters attendance/timetables/behaviour and achievement points.

I hope this alleviates any concerns you may have, as always please feel free to get in touch with me if you have any further questions.

Kind Regards



Mrs Leek  
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