

20th May 2021

RE: Year 12 Level 3 Summer Term arrangements

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, thank you for all your support, this has been one of the most challenging times for schools, students and parents alike. However, it is amazing to see the way the students have risen to the challenges brought on by the pandemic - they have shown how resilient they are and their ability to adapt both in and out the classroom has been impressive. As we come to the end of the academic year for the Year 12 Level 3 students we have outlined below some arrangements to support their next steps.

The level 3 students have nearly completed half of their two year courses but there is still much for us to do before we conclude this academic year. It is our hope that normality returns and students will be assessed in the usual way when their courses conclude in the summer of 2022, we must ensure we get the students ready for this. To support the student's preparation for next summer we have a robust and supportive assessment plan in place over the next 6 weeks to ensure students are ready to progress to Year 13. It is important to note that this cohort have not sat public examinations and we need to support them to develop key examination skills so they perform at their best in pressurised exam conditions that they are likely to face in summer 2022.

Progression

We have kept the message clear and consistent 'progression to Year 13 is not guaranteed', students will only progress if they demonstrate the academic ability to handle the demands of Year 13. The progression exams will take place between the 14th – 25th June, the purpose of these exams is to ensure that students are at the required level to access the Year 13 curriculum. Between now and the 14th June class teachers and form tutors will support the students with their preparations ensuring that all students have been given the best chance of success in these exams.

Week beginning the 28th June we will ask staff to feedback on each student's exam performance and confirm all vocational coursework is completed, if feedback suggests a lack of preparation, a lack of commitment or a lack of understanding then we will have discussions with students and parents/carers about students dropping a course, restarting Year 12 on different courses or moving on from the Academy.

Students have been told in assembly and by their tutors/subject teachers that these progression exams are coming up, each subject teacher is making the students well aware of the standards they need to meet to guarantee a place in Year 13.

I would appreciate your support in encouraging students to prepare for these progression exams over the coming weeks:

- Help your child create and follow a revision schedule



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- Encourage them to independently study. Please ask them to show you their Google Classrooms as they will be filed with advice and guidance about how to prepare and what to revise.
- Ensure they are eating well, getting enough sleep and organising their resources in advance.

Work Experience

Work experience could not be carried out in the normal way this year due to companies not being able/prepared to have staff, much less students on site. However there is an increasing number of virtual work experience placements that exist to allow students the ability to get experience in their chosen fields or to develop vital transferable skills. Between now and September we urge students to organise a placement, in preparation for writing their personal statements for getting their first job and/or applying for university.

Here are a few sites that can be used to help students find work experience:

- <https://www.studentladder.co.uk/work-experience/>
- <https://www.volunteerics.org/>
- <https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/get-job/get-experience?gclid=CP7VnqyHg9ICFaeT7Qod17cMEg>
- https://vinspired.com/volunteer?gclid=CNSq5_TygtlCFeyc7QodAZUDcw
- <https://crystalpalacefestival.org/events/creative-careers/>
- https://www.springpod.co.uk/experience/marketing-work-experience?utm_source=campus&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=rolespecificcampus_business_studies_12_05_20
- Many universities offer work experience

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish all of our students a lovely well deserved half term break. The students' hard work has not gone unnoticed and I am so proud of every single one of them. In preparation for next year students will be set summer holiday homework and we will provide two event days in July where we will run careers and UCAS information sessions and we will also have a celebratory event at the end of the Summer term to bring this academic year to a close.

If you are unsure about anything in this letter and need further information please contact year12@southfieldsacademy.com



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