



9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Student,

Following my letter to you on 29th May, I am writing to provide an update with regards to the measures of support being implemented by our College Team over the remaining half term.

On Tuesday of last week, we were visited by our external Health & Safety Advisor and we shared our plans and proposals for Year 12 students to access some face to face support here at Barrow Hall College. We carried out a robust and detailed risk assessment including a walk around of the College building and assessment of individual room size and access to ICT facilities, whilst keeping the safety and well-being of staff and students at the forefront of our mind.

Following this consultation, and upon the advice received from our external Health & Safety Advisor, we have concluded that the safest and most meaningful way to support our students will be a combination of 1:1 remote support with an opportunity to access 1:1 face to face support on an appointment basis.

Tutors will contact students to arrange a time for meetings to take place and will give students a code to join a 'google meet' online meeting. Students can access this via mobile phone, laptop or PC, and will need both webcam and sound to benefit from the face-to-face contact.

In order to inform the meetings with tutors and to assess the effectiveness of the programme of remote teaching and learning, we would appreciate it if students could complete the 'Personal Review' survey before Friday 12th June but at their earliest opportunity. <https://forms.gle/8QzEqUeQhv11qaz57> A copy of this survey has been emailed directly to students' college email accounts.

The meetings will provide students with the opportunity to talk through any concerns they have and review their academic progress, but also afford them the chance to receive feedback on their UCAS application including their personal statement. Students applying to university should have at least a first draft of their personal statement completed prior to the summer holiday. This is especially important for students who are making an early application to Oxbridge or a competitive course such as Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine. Students who are not planning on applying to university will receive advice and guidance in relation to their chosen pathway including apprenticeships. The meetings with tutors will form one element of a larger programme of advice and guidance using our dedicated careers platform 'Unifrog'. Mr Pickwell, as Head of Year, has already started a remote UCAS programme which will continue throughout the remaining weeks of term.

In addition to this, we are offering the opportunity for students to meet with a member of the college team, in college, if they feel this would be beneficial. The meeting would be with either myself as Head of College or one of the two Heads of Year (Mr Pickwell or Miss Turner) and can be requested via email. This affords students the chance to come back into college, but also limits any risk as they would only be meeting with one member of staff in a socially distanced, controlled environment.


We have already begun to introduce remote 'live' or pre-recorded lessons in some subject areas and this will be rolled out across departments from 15<sup>th</sup> June. Remote teaching and learning will continue until the summer holidays and the programme will be enhanced with live and recorded lessons where students can engage directly with their peers and their teachers. The feedback gained from the 'Personal Review' survey will be used to assess, adapt and improve the teaching and learning programme to meet the needs of students.

Year 12 teaching staff have been asked to rate individual class members' progress with the remote learning programme and this will be used to inform future intervention where this is needed. Those students who are identified as being significantly behind, and therefore not ready to progress through to year 13, will be asked to attend supervised study sessions (socially distanced) at college from Monday 22nd June in order for them to catch up in a more structured environment.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding throughout this challenging time. The college teaching and pastoral teams will continue to work hard to support students remotely and to plan for up and coming events such as year 13 results day and support, year 11 induction, and the return of year in September.

If you have any concerns regarding the above information or would like to speak to a member of the College Leadership Team directly, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhianne Bond".

Rhianne Bond  
Head of College