

Bexhill College: Coronavirus update for Students and Parents/Carers

Thursday 19th March 2020

Following yesterday's announcements about the closure of schools and colleges until further notice from Monday and the decision not to run exams this year, we are still waiting for information about what exactly this means. We understand students will get some sort of qualification but we do not know the detail or how that will be decided. Therefore, the staff are continuing to provide the remote learning as we notified we would do yesterday. All students should continue to complete this, as the staff will use this as part of any teacher based assessment if the exam boards ask for this as part of their processes for awarding the qualifications.

For courses which are coursework based, such as the Extended Diplomas, Subsidiaries and the Certificates, we are anticipating that grading will be based on coursework grades so all student should be completing coursework as set.

Essentially, we do not know what information may be required form staff in relation to this so students need to continue to complete work so assessment of performance by staff can be made as needed.

Services on site from today

On Friday 20th March, the College site is closed to students. The online learning process will operate as outlined below.

We are waiting for further guidance around the yesterday's announcement regarding vulnerable groups but the College has already started online support for these students today. We do not envisage formal learning activity taking place on site.

Parents of these students will be contacted by the study centre to outline the onsite support available.

Online Learning:

Since it became evident that the action to combat the Coronavirus might call for changes to everyday activities, our curriculum departments and technical teams have been working on preparing for whole college remote learning. This is not a quick process and staff will need to continue to develop and refine the content they provide online. Please bear with them for the next couple of working days while they finalise resources. Subject staff will communicate directly with students with regard to the systems and expectations of remote learning which will differ from course to course depending on the nature of the subject and available resources.

We ask all our students to ensure they check the following on a daily basis:

- Student Email

- College Website
- MOODLE
- Any other communication media which your courses use

We will have already allocated online TA support to those students who receive additional support already for their studies, to help facilitate their on-line learning.

Unless ill or unable to be available for other reasons, staff will endeavour to follow the usual timetable periods and will be available on-line at usual lesson and tutorial times to respond to student queries. If staff are unable to respond during these times, students will be informed about alternative arrangements.

On-line Student Services support remains available for students who need to information on financial or student welfare matters.

Exams:

All exams are cancelled. Therefore, the on-demand exams we said we would run in Wednesdays update prior to the Easter break have been cancelled following yesterdays announcement from the Government regarding exams.

Students who receive a College Bursary

For students eligible for a bursary whilst studying, a separate update regarding how this service will continue during this period has been emailed to you. Please contact student services if you have not received this.

Student Wellbeing

We have already provided a lot of advice for students on the Coronavirus and how to keep physically and mentally well during tutor periods. Students can find this information on student portal. This is a link to information provided this week which students and parents may find useful.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

Updates

It is important to reiterate that the college is not closing. We remain committed to providing a high-quality education service for our students. These are unprecedented times with exceptional challenges, which are impacting on our ability to provide our normal services. As such, we are putting arrangements in place for remote working that promote social distancing as advised by Government.

We will continue to update the website on a daily basis with any new information we have. This will be updated by 6.30pm each day. Please be aware that we may not be able to fully

respond to that days Government announcements but we will do so, as appropriate, the following day or as soon as we reasonably can.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Karen Hucker
Principal