

Bexhill College: Coronavirus update for Students and Parents/Carers

Monday 23rd March 2020

This is our latest update for students and parents/carers. It contains some information we have provided previously – where this has not changed along with new information where we have this.

Updates

Throughout this difficult period, 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 **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** for the time being with any new information we have. This will be updated by 6.30pm on those days. 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.

Following announcements about the closure of schools and colleges until further notice from today 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 from staff in relation to this so students need to continue to complete work so assessment of performance by staff can be made as needed. We hope we will be able to provide further clarification over the next week.

Services on site from today

The College site is now closed to students. The online learning process will operate as outlined below.

Information for our students on EHCPs has also been circulated to those individual students.

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>

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 are working hard to continue to develop and refine the content they provide online. Subject staff will have communicated 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 continue to 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 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.

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

Reports

Parents will be aware that we were due to issue reports just before the Easter break. We are postponing issuing these until we fully understand how the grading for those courses with end of year exams/grades will be decided. We will provide further information in due course.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Karen Hucker
Principal